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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 63 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 1947 TEN CENTS

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'Little Three' Won the Stay Of N. Y. Decree

Were Aided by Para., ATA, CSA and SCTOA

WASHINGTON, March 31. — The successful fight last Friday to win a stay of the New York Federal Court decree pending the determination of appeals therefrom by the Supreme Court was waged almost exclusively by counsel for the so-called Little Three and American Theatres Association in conjunction with the Confederacy of Southern Associations and the Southern California Theatre Owners Association.

(Inadvertently, *Motion Picture Daily* reported yesterday that U. S. Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed, who heard the arguments in chambers on Friday, had "announced" that the stay would be granted. Ac-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Foundation Dates Set

Preliminary meetings and conferences have been held in more than two-thirds of the exchange areas for the purpose of setting up organizing meetings in each area for the Motion Picture Foundation, Barney Balaban, temporary steering committee chairman, said here yesterday.

In accordance with the plan of organization of the Foundation, representatives of every phase of the industry are to meet in each exchange

(*Continued on page* 10)

Jackson Park Hits 'Escape' Tactics

CHICAGO, March 31.—Filing a reply brief with the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here today, the Jackson Park Theatre accused the distributor and B. and K. and Warner circuit defendants of trying to postpone an adverse decision by submitting an innocuous decree of their own.

Thomas C. McConnell, lawyer for the Jackson Park, in the 75-page brief,

(*Continued on page* 10)

MPA Directors and Members in Annual Meets; Reelect All

Domestic and world problems affecting American motion pictures were discussed at the annual meeting here yesterday of the Motion Picture Association of America.

Eric Johnston, president, reported on the activities of the past year. He praised the constructive and cooperative attitude of Hollywood, particularly in relation to the Production Code.

The board approved plans submitted by Joseph R. Vogel of Loew's, chairman of the program committee, for the dinner in New York on May 8 marking the 25th anniversary of the association.

The board also approved proposals to send stars to participate in the Brussels Film Festival on June 15, and the Second Command Performance in London next November.

Principal Pictures filed notice of

(*Continued on page* 10)

Salesmen's Union Names Negotiators

CHICAGO, March 31.—Arthur M. Van Dyke, national president of the newly activated Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America, salesmen's union, heads a three-man committee which will seek to negotiate labor contracts with distributors. Serving with him are N. Provencher, Milwaukee, national executive secretary, and M. F. Keller, Portland, Ore., national vice-president. Their counsel is David Beznor of Milwaukee.

The committee was appointed here

(*Continued on page* 9)

NY Mono.'Showcase' Impending: Broidy

Monogram is currently persuing negotiations to acquire a Broadway "showcase" in New York and expects to complete a deal in that connection within the next two weeks, Monogram Pictures president, Steve Broidy reported here yesterday upon his arrival from Chicago, Toronto and Hollywood.

The company's aim, Broidy said, is to secure a theatre here for exhibition of Monogram and Allied Artists (Monogram producing affiliate) product exclusively. However, he ex-

(*Continued on page* 11)

SALES POLICIES UPSET BY STAY

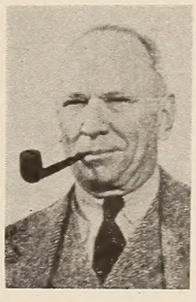
Universal 13-Week Net at $756,543

Universal Pictures' consolidated net profits for the 13 weeks ended Feb. 1, were $756,543 after all charges including Federal taxes.

This compares with $934,506 for the corresponding period of the preceding fiscal year.

$1,742,694 GPE Profit

Consolidated net profit of General Precision Equipment Corp. for the year ended Dec. 31, 1946, was $1,742,694, after estimated Federal income taxes but before credit for special items in the net amount of $340,256. The net income was equivalent to $2.90 per share on 601,087 shares outstanding at the end of the year, compared with $1,390,954, or $2.31 per share, on the same number of shares in 1945, Earle G. Hines, GPE president, disclosed here yesterday.



Earle G. Hines

The report states that the special

(*Continued on page* 11)

U.S. Exchange Setup Offered By Clark

PHILADELPHA, March 31.—Following reports that some distributors are planning to build exchanges in Jacksonville and San Antonio, James P. Clark, president of National Film Distributors, has informed each distributor that NFD would be willing to construct in any territory where there is need for such additional facilities a modern fire-proof building with am-

(*Continued on page* 10)

Even Companies Opposed To Competitive Bids Are Undecided on New Plans

Whether the order staying the New York Federal Court decree which Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed instructed counsel last Friday to draw up for his signature will bring an immediate end to competitive bidding in its present experimental stages had not been decided by some general sales managers here yesterday.

It seemed definite, however, that those companies which have not yet offered competitive bidding and several others which opposed it will take no part in that selling method while the stay of the New York decree is in effect. As reported by *Motion Picture Daily* yesterday, that could be for another year or more.

Regardless of the decisions which are eventually made by individual

(*Continued on page* 10)

$15,000,000 Loew's Loan

Loew's Inc., has arranged for $15,000,000 in long-term financing by a loan of $6,000,000 at two per cent for eight years from the First National Bank of Boston and by $9,000,000 in 2.85% debentures due July 15, 1965. The loans will be used as working capital and for general corporate purposes.

Eight insurance companies which already hold outstanding Loew debentures purchased the new ones.

In This Issue

"The Two Mrs. Carrolls" is reviewed on page 7; "San Demetrio, London," and "Vacation Days" on page 10; "Bells of San Fernando" and "Buffalo Bill Rides Again" on page 11.

Key city grosses are given on page 8.

Free Films Through Ads

HOLLYWOOD, March 31.—Free motion pictures for the public, with costs defrayed through advertising, in competition with established theatres appears on the horizon with the announcement that Berne J. Ellis, former president of Moist-R-Pruf Container Co., of San Francisco, has organized the Portable Theatre Corp., with headquarters here, in New York and in Chicago. Deliveries of the portable theatres, to be located on leased sites in large retail outlets, hotels, terminals, schools and churches, will begin on April 15.

The new firm's activities include a film-producing unit, Picturettes Corp., here. Servicing will be out of the Chicago office, according to Ellis. Each of the portable theatres will be a completely self-contained unit with fully automatic projection and sound which can be operated by the spectator, he explained.

All releases will be in color, Ellis announced, and each program will consist of two entertainment features and two educational subjects. Sponsoring advertisers' announcements are to be presented intermittently, he added.

The company's plans call for public relations matters, Americanism, juvenile delinquency, and household tips, travel and avocational subjects on the program, Ellis said, adding that the company hopes to set up 36,000 portable theatres in selected outlets by Jan., 1949.

Higdon Buyer for Griffith Circuit

OKLAHOMA CITY, March 31.—Ray A. Higdon of Dallas, has been named film buyer for Griffith Consolidated Theatres, Inc., with general offices here, by Henry S. Griffing, executive vice-president.

Griffing said Higdon had been buying for the 50-town independent circuit in Oklahoma and Texas for the past two months, after having been associated with the R. E. Griffith circuit at Dallas for several years. Prior to joining the Griffith companies, Higdon was engaged in film distribution and formerly was 20th-Fox exchange manager here.

Iannuzzi Named WB Charlotte Manager

Ralph J. Iannuzzi, Warner salesman in Charlotte since Jan., 1945, has been promoted to branch manager of that exchange, Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager, announced here yesterday. Iannuzzi succeeds John A. Bachman, who resigned to become district manager of United Artists in Atlanta.

The Charlotte branch is part of the territory under the supervision of Norman Ayers, southern division sales manager.

Personal Mention

TOM CONNORS, 20th-Fox distribution chief, and WILLIAM C. GEHRING, Central sales manager, have returned to New York from Florida.

•

EDWARD L. HYMAN, Paramount Theatres Service vice-president, will fly to Minneapolis today from New York for conferences with HARRY B. FRENCH, Minnesota Amusement Co. president.

•

WILLIAM T. POWELL, district manager of Western Massachusetts Theatres, Inc., Pittsfield, Mass., has been appointed by Station WBEC to give a nightly film commentary.

•

JOHN HERTZ, JR., chairman of the board of the Buchanan agency, has returned here from a tour of the agency's offices in Hollywood, San Francisco and Chicago.

•

JOSEPH J. DEITCH, Paramount Theatres Service executive, is a patient at Polyclinic Hospital here after his return from a trip to the West.

•

HENRY L. NEEDLES, Hartford district manager for Warner Theatres, and his wife are observing their 30th wedding anniversary.

•

NAT LIEBESKIND is stopping at the Warwick Hotel here following his return from a business trip to Washington.

•

BERT SANFORD, Altec theatrical sales manager, has returned to New York from a trip through the Southeast.

•

FRANK LIBERMAN of the Warner publicity staff on the Coast, arrived here yesterday for a 10-day visit.

•

RICHARD F. WALSH, IATSE president, returned to New York yesterday from Mexico City.

•

MICHAEL CURTIZ has arrived in New York from the Coast.

NATE J. BLUMBERG, Universal president, and his wife will fly to the Coast Friday and will return to New York in two weeks.

•

JACK VOTION, RKO Radio studio representative in Europe, and ROBERT WOLFF, RKO manager director in Great Britain, who is here from London, will leave New York for Hollywood at the weekend.

•

HERMAN M. LEVY, general counsel of MPTOA, returned to New Haven from California yesterday.

•

ISADOR M. RAPPAPORT, owner of the Hippodrome in Baltimore, has returned to his office after convalescing from the grippe.

•

BABE COHEN, Atlanta branch manager of Monogram Southern exchanges, has returned to his desk following a trip through Florida.

•

LOUISE BRAMBLETT, head of Wil-Kin Theatre Supply warehouse in Atlanta, is in Dallas to assist in setting up Interstate Circuit's new candy warehouse there.

•

R. M. SAVINI, Astor Pictures head, left last weekend for Miami where he is staying with CHARLES YUILLE, his partner in Charbob Pictures Corp. of Miami.

•

CHARLES SHUTT, special representative of Telenews, is in Seattle from San Francisco to arrange exhibition of a series of foreign features at the Metropolitan Theatre.

•

RALPH MCCOY, Eagle-Lion special representative for the Southern states has left Atlanta for a business trip through Florida.

•

MIKE FITZGERALD, stagehand at Loew's Poli in Waterbury, Conn., and his wife are observing their 50th wedding anniversary.

Crouch Program of Features Increased

At the current height of attention being given to New York's "hermit house" of the Collyer's, William Crouch, independent producer, has set a feature, "Hermit House," to be filmed here, and a screenplay for which is now being written by Charles Curran.

Additionally, Crouch will produce two musical Westerns with Red River Dave, to be filmed around San Antonio, starting this week, and still a fourth feature, to follow the two Westerns, entitled "Disc Jockey."

Huntsacker Named To Coast SRO Post

SAN FRANCISCO, March 31.—Harry Huntsacker, formerly United Artists' city sales manager here, has been appointed exchange manager by the Selznick Releasing Co. Before joining Selznick, Huntsacker was manager of the Stage Door Theatre here.

Teacher Units Aid Children's Shows

CINCINNATI, March 31.—The local Board of Education and 70 parent-teacher councils here have lent their support to the regular Saturday morning children's matinees at Universal's Keith's Theatre which began March 29. The board permitted distribution of 65,000 heralds in 75 schools plus the posting of cards on bulletin boards.

Cooperating with Edward Riesenbeck, Keith's manager, and Harry Keller, Universal field representative, are Dr. G. H. Reavis of the Board of Education, and Mrs. William Bruckman, president and Mrs. A. P. McLaughlin, motion picture chairman of the Cincinnati Council of Parent-Teacher Associations.

Capra to Do 'State'

HOLLYWOOD, March 31.—Frank Capra will produce and direct "State of the Union" as a Liberty Films production for M-G-M release.

Baldwin Cited for Public Relations

Ted Baldwin, promotion-exploitation manager of the Selznick Releasing Organization, was judged the recipient of the American Public Relations Association's award for the most meritorious public relations performance, as an individual, in the field of entertainment, based on Baldwin's promotional activities for "Duel in the Sun." Presentation of the award, which is in the form of a silver anvil on a mahogany pedestal, will be made at a luncheon on April 9, at the Waldorf-Astoria, here, where the American Public Relations Association will hold a three-day convention, starting on April 7.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
RONALD COLMAN in
'THE LATE GEORGE APLEY'
Introducing PEGGY CUMMINS
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
THE MUSIC HALL'S
GREAT EASTER STAGE SHOW

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
Laraine DAY · Brian AHERNE
Robert MITCHUM·Gene RAYMOND
'THE LOCKET' AN RKO RADIO PICTURE

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
Hedy LAMARR
George SANDERS
Louis HAYWARD
'The STRANGE WOMAN'
IN PERSON
The Famous BARON MUNCHAUSEN
Jack PEARL
CLIFF HALL

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTEN · ETHEL BARRYMORE
in
"The Farmer's Daughter"
An RKO Radio Picture
A DORE SCHARY Production
RIVOLI
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.
B'way at 49th St.

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR
B'way & 45th St.

BOB HOPE
DOROTHY LAMOUR
in PARAMOUNT'S
"My Favorite Brunette"
with PETER LORRE
LON CHANEY
in Person!
JIMMY DORSEY
AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PAT HENNING · LYN SHIRLEY
LOUIS JORDAN
AND HIS TYMPANY FIVE
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 215 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.


WHAT
This COUNTRY
NEEDS IS
MORE
FARMERS'
Daughters!

THE SNAPPIEST STORY ABOUT THE
since The Farmers Daughter

—She hitched her heart to a fighting man on the rugged road from cornfield to Congress!...*Everybody* will love this laughing love story of the girl who ran a glowing romance into a spectacular career!



RKO PRESENTS

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTEN
ETHEL BARRYMORE

in

"The Far

FARMER'S DAUGHTER
went to Town!



mer's Daughter"

WITH **CHARLES BICKFORD**

ROSE HOBART · TOM POWERS

A DORE SCHARY Production

Directed by H. C. POTTER · Written by ALLEN RIVKIN and LAURA KERR

RKO SHOWMANSHIP IN ADVERTISING!

Delivering a terrific DOUBLE-PLAY seat-selling punch to national magazine advertising for a big dramatic comedy by running both pictorial-type ads and COMIC-TYPE ADS... plus the use of comic type ads in the comic or magazine sections of 118 leading Sunday newspapers, to a total of 102,310,984 CIRCULATION!



Jack Warner Sets 8 for 2nd Quarter

HOLLYWOOD, March 31.—Jack L. Warner, executive producer of Warner Brothers, today gave the green light to eight story properties scheduled to go before the cameras in the second quarter of this year.

First will be "The Silver River," starring Errol Flynn and Ann Sheridan, which Owen Crump will place under way this month. Other script set to roll by mid-year include: "Up Until Now," which Jerry Wald will produce; "Christopher Blake," from the Broadway play by Moss Hart; "Rainbow Mountain," Technicolor musical to be produced by Alex Gottlieb; "The Iron Gate," Henry Branke's next, and "Barbary Host," to be produced by William Jacobs.

In addition, two production companies which release through Warners, Milton Sperling's United States Pictures, and the Michael Curtiz unit, each will launch at least one picture. Curtiz is readying "The Shadow of Fear," while Sperling has set "Ever the Beginning" as the next Lilli Palmer vehicle, with Elliott Nugent directing.

This will make 14 productions placed before the cameras at the Warner studio in the first half of 1947.

Oust Reds from Film Industry: Rankin

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Unless the people in control of the industry are willing to clean house of Communists, "Congress will have to do it for them," according to Rep. Rankin (D., Miss.), ranking minority member of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

In a speech on the House floor, Rep. Rankin charged that "large numbers of moving pictures that come out of Hollywood carry the Communist line." He referred to the statement made to the committee by MPA president Eric Johnston as "the hand of Esau and the voice of Johnston," and said that if "Mr. Johnston does not know of the Communist infiltration into Hollywood he should study the files of the committee as well as those of the FBI."

Boston Theatre To Be Foreign First-Run

BOSTON, March 31.—Siritzky International Pictures Corp. has signed a 20-year lease on the Old South Theatre here as the first out-of-own link in the firm's American circuit. The 850-seat house will be used as a first-run foreign film theatre.

Alterations are now under way at the house, which will be renamed the Rex. Berk and Krumgold, New York theatre realty specialists, arranged the deal.

AMPA Invites Aleman

Mexico's new impetus in film making and the interest it is receiving from Hollywood producers have motivated the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, through its president, Rutgers Neilson, to formally invite through diplomatic channels Mexico's president Miguel Aleman to its 30th anniversary dinner, in New York's Hotel Astor on April 23.

Review

"The Two Mrs. Carrolls"

(Warner Brothers)

Hollywood, March 31

THE presence of Humphrey Bogart, who has been voted among those in the "Top Ten" in each of the past four *Motion Picture Herald* annual "Money-Making Stars" polls, and with Barbara Stanwyck and Alexis Smith as marquee company, appears to guarantee the commercial success of this otherwise somewhat problematical melodrama.

It is a quite different Bogart that producer Mark Hellinger offers here, not at all the rugged personality of his past pictures, but a demented artist addicted to poisoning his wives in the interest of artistic inspiration. Additionally, the action is largely conversational, the screenplay by Thomas Job, deriving from Martin Vale's stageplay of the same title, and none of the characters are heroic. On the plus side, as to entertainment, the proceedings do generate considerable suspense before it is made clear just how far the killer's mania is going to carry him.

Peter Godfrey directed the picture, which opens with Bogart, cast as a distinguished artist, engaging in a romance with Miss Stanwyck, who calls a halt to it upon learning he is married. Returning to his home, he dispatches his wife by giving her poison in her milk, after which he marries Miss Stanwyck. After a spell of marriage with her, and after a socialite, played by Miss Smith, has fascinated him, he begins poisoning his present wife (Miss Stanwyck) by the same process—meanwhile killing off the chemist who supplies him with the poison—but she finds out what is going on and manages, very narrowly, to bring about his arrest in what is known as the nick of time. After that he explains he has found it necessary to kill his women as fast as they have ceased to inspire him artistically, and the police take him away. It is a strange vehicle for "Bogey," as mentioned above, and not for kiddies.

Running time, 100 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

'IA,' Mexican Union Set 'Friendly' Tie

A "friendly working relationship" has been established between the IATSE and the Mexican union having jurisdiction over motion picture machine operators, theatre employes and other film workers, there, it was reported here yesterday by "IA" international president Richard F. Walsh upon his return from Mexico City where he held conferences with Salvador Carrillo and other Mexican labor leaders.

Legion Rates Dope Film 'Objectionable'

Monogram's "Fall Guy" has been given a "B" classification (objectionable in part) by the National Legion of Decency. Objection to the picture was cited by the Legion as follows: "Presentation of illicit drug traffic tends to cause morally harmful social effects."

Other films given a B classification are: "Carnival in Costa Rica," 20th Century-Fox, and "Time Out of Mind," Universal-International.

Meanwhile, the Legion has classified the following films A-I: "Citizen Saint," Clyde Elliott; "King of Wild Horses," Columbia; "Range Beyond the Blue," Producers Releasing; "Seven Were Saved," Paramount. Placed in Class A-II were: "The Guilty," Monogram, and "Lady Chaser," PRC.

Oxarart to CBS

Columbia Broadcasting has established a West Coast transcontinental network sales office in Hollywood, to be headed by Frank Oxarart, who will dispose of his own advertising agency in order to take the post.

Harris Is Head of UK Censor Board

LONDON, March 31.—Sir Sidney West Harris, Commander of the Order of the Bath and Commander of the Royal Victoria Order, has been appointed president of the British Board of Film Censors to succeed the late Lord Tyrrell. The appointment was effected at a joint meeting of trade associations, with the approval of the British Home Secretary.

Harris, aged 71, was British representative with the League of Nations on the social questions advisory committee, from 1922 onwards, and held a similar post with the United Nations Economic and Social Council in New York in 1946. Throughout his career he has been interested in the social potentialities of motion pictures.

Theatremen Adjourn Regional Meetings

KANSAS CITY, March 31.—Climaxed by a board of directors meeting here, the series of regional meetings of exhibitors which were sponsored by the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association ended with a session at Neosho, Mo. Hugh Gardner and Harley Fryer were hosts. An estimated 400 exhibitors in all, members and non-members of KMTA, participated in the series.

In Kansas, meetings were held in Abilene, Wakeeny, Dodge City, Wichita and Independence, while the Missouri cities included Hamilton, Appleton City and Neosho.

Baker Sells Two Houses

ATLANTA, March 31. — C. Baker, former owner of the Howard and Leach Theatres in Lake City and LaFollette, Tennessee, respectively, has disposed of his interests to W. H. Parrott of the Cherokee Circuit of LaFollette. Baker sold out on account of the ill health of his son, and is moving to Florida.



3 New Films Score At NY First-Runs; Other Grosses Vary

While the majority of New York's first-runs experienced box-office conditions ranging from good to depression levels, three new films bowed in and registered firmly.

"Johnny O'Clock" was enthusiastically greeted at the Criterion, where a first week's revenue of $45,000 is indicated. "Carnival in Costa Rica," combined with a stage show headed by Connee Boswell and Jackie Miles, provided the Roxy with a handsome $60,000 during Friday through Sunday and promises to wind up an initial week with a mighty good $90,000. A substantial $42,000 is seen for the first week of "The Farmer's Daughter" at the Rivoli.

"The Late George Apley" with the annual Easter stage show at the Music Hall went into its second week with continued box-office vigor, taking $85,000 Thursday through Sunday. This points to an impressive $139,000 for the week.

At the Paramount, "My Favorite Brunette" and a stage show topped by Jimmy Dorsey's orchestra again prove to be a tip-top combination with $100,000 anticipated for a second week. The theatre is offering six shows daily, opening at 8:30 A. M.

"The Best Years of Our Lives" slipped a little in the last few days with $41,000 for its 19th week expected at the Astor. "It Happened in Brooklyn," with Sammy Kaye's orchestra probably will provide the Capitol with $69,000 which is fairly strong for a third week.

The fourth week of "Pursued" and Louis Prima's orchestra at the Strand is running about average for a total estimated at $48,000. "Stallion Road" will follow, on Friday. "The Two Mrs. Carrolls" will make its debut at the Hollywood on Saturday, following "Nora Prentiss" which probably will wind up its sixth week with a mild $10,000.

The third week of "The Red House" at the Globe is fair at an estimated $17,500, and will be followed on Thursday by "That's My Man." "Angel and the Badman," at the Gotham, is down to approximately $9,500 for a fifth and final week. "Tarzan and the Huntress" will replace it on Saturday. The fourth and final week of "The Thief of Bagdad" promises to bring only $9,000; the Victoria's next attraction will be "The Adventuress," beginning on Thursday. The 31st week of "Henry V" brought the John Golden about $8,000.

At the Winter Garden, "Stairway to Heaven," on a moveover run, figures to gross $21,000 in a third week.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

BALTIMORE

Box-offices are just about striking average. Openings were fairly strong but weekend business failed to measure up. Managers continue to complain of a lack of matinee attendance. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 3:

BOOM TOWN (M-G-M reissue)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $14,00)

SWELL GUY (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,000)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (28c-40c-50c-58c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-47c-50c-58c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $16,500)

MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-59c) 7 days, with stage show. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $17,500)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (Advanced admission prices: 75c-$1.25) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $20.000) (Average at regular admission prices of 35c-65c: $14,000)

ABIE'S IRISH ROSE (UA)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,500)

IT HAPPENED AT THE INN (M-G-M reissue)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,000)

MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-36c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $4,500)

CINCINNATI

The weather is moderate and grosses are likewise, with the majority of returns registering around average, although "The Best Years of Our Lives" still is doing well in its third week at the RKO Capitol. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 1-4:

THE RED HOUSE (UA)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.40-$1.50) 3rd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average, at regular admissions of 50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c: $10,000)

LAW OF THE LASH (PRC) and DEVIL ON WHEELS (PRC)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600)

LADY CHASER (PRC) and RAINBOW OVER THE ROCKIES (Mono.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Gross: $1,100. (Average: $1,100)

LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,000)

THE MICHIGAN KID (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $8,200. (Average: $7,500)

APACHE ROSE (Rep.) and THAT BRENNAN GIRL (Rep.)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

STANLEY AND LIVINGSTON (20th-Fox reissue) and LES MISERABLES (20th-Fox reissue)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

TORONTO

Another wintry blast during the week, and the "pro" hockey playoffs, were providing stern theatre opposition, in the face of which four theatres held over their programs. Patronage, generally, was fair. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 2:

I SEE A DARK STRANGER (Br.)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,300. (Average: $5,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,800)

JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $14,300)

LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $13,800)

THE PERFECT MARRIAGE (Para.)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $14,800)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $9,500)

ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.)—UPTOWN (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,400. (Average: $11,400)

I SEE A DARK STRANGER (Br.)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $6.800)

ATLANTA

Despite fair weather, grosses here were below average this week, with the exception of the 20th-Fox reissue, "The Return of Frank James," which was slightly above average at the Capital on a dual bill. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 2:

ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.)—FOX (4,661) (30c-50c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,000)

THE MAN I LOVE (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (30c-50c). Gross: $8,100. (Average: $8,500)

NORA PRENTISS (WB)—ROXY (2,446) (30c-50c) 2nd week, moveover from Fox. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,600)

THE RETURN OF FRANK JAMES (20th-Fox reissue) and THE TRUTH ABOUT MURDER (RKO Radio)—CAPITAL (2,446). Gross: $5,200. (Average: $5,000)

BOOMTOWN (M-G-M reissue)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (30c-50c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,000)

Wind and Snow Hit Cleveland Grosses

CLEVELAND, March 31.—Because of heavy snow and a wind storm that completely tied up all traffic on Tuesday, March 25, and the following day, theatre business here suffered considerably. Grosses for the week ended March 26-27, accordingly, failed to reach the advance estimates published in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on March 27. Revised grosses: Ohio, "Kit Carson," $7,000; State, "California," $23,000; Stillman, "My Favorite Brunette," $10,500; Allen, "Boomerang!", $7,500; Palace, "Wake Up and Dream" and Lionel Hampton's orchestra, $28,000; Hippodrome, "Nora Prentiss," $16,500; Lake, "Dead Reckoning," $2,800.

'Little 3' Won

(*Continued from page* 1)

tually, Justice Reed merely made known to counsel his views of what a staying order that he would sign should contain.

(Counsel met in New York yesterday to draw up the staying order for presentation to Justice Reed. The order is neither final nor official until it has been signed.)

Petitions for stays of the decree were opposed by John Caskey, attorney for 20th Century-Fox, who also opposed the appearance of Thurman Arnold as counsel for intervenors, on the ground that the intervention petitions of ATA, CSA and SCTOA had been denied by the New York Federal Court.

John W. Davis, counsel for Loew's, argued only for a stay of the decree terminating industry arbitration but, subsequently, and joined by Joseph Proskauer, Warners counsel, be requested that all stays granted be made applicable to their companies, too. According to reports here, their change of stance came after it became apparent that Justice Reed was sympathetic to the smaller petitioners.

Whitney North Seymour, of counsel for Paramount, pleaded for stays of competitive bidding and other phases of the New York decree. Counsel for RKO was noncommittal.

Leading the successful fight for the complete stay of the decree were Louis D. Frohlich of Schwartz and Frohlich, Columbia counsel; Thomas Turner Cooke, Universal counsel; Edward C. and George Raftery, United Artists counsel; Seymour, Arnold and Col. Robert Barton, CSA counsel.

The record of the New York case for the Supreme Court appeals must be filed by May 15, Justice Reed instructed counsel. Meetings already have been held looking to an agreement on the parts of the record which must be printed.

The outcome of Friday's hearing is looked upon here as a complete defeat for the Government which, under Robert L. Wright, assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, opposed all petitions for stays.

In New York yesterday, John W. Davis and Joseph Proskauer declined to comment on the Washington version of their parts in Friday's hearing. John Caskey could not be reached.

PRC Appoints Talley

ATLANTA, March 31.—Bill Talley, formerly branch manager for Republic Pictures, here, has been appointed special sales representative for PRC.

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German Production Ready to Resume

By H. ZU LOWENSTEIN

Berlin, March 26 (By Air Mail).—While drastic cuts in coal and electricity have practically paralyzed the industry here, preparations are well advanced to resume full production this spring. A new producing company has been formed in the British zone of occupation which will start its program with the production of short documentaries. In Hamburg, Helmut Kaeutner is completing his first postwar picture, "In Those Days."

New Arbitration Cases in N.Y. and L.A.

Two new complaints, one involving clearance and the other combining clearance and designated-run, have been filed respectively with the New York and Los Angeles tribunals of the arbitration system. Named as defendants in both cases are the five major distributing companies.

In the New York complaint, H. and S. Amusement Co., which operates the Lido Theatre in Orange, N. J., complains of the priority-run and seven-day clearance granted the Windsor Theatre of West Orange, N. J. The complainant seeks abolition of all clearance. Furthermore, it seeks reduction to seven days of the present clearance of 14 and 21 days, favoring the Embassy, also of Orange.

The Souris-Nenes Amusement Co., operating the Grand Theatre in Miami, Ariz., in the Los Angeles case, charges that Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio, M-G-M and Warner Brothers have refused to license any pictures day and date to the Grand unless seven days clearance is given to the Alden Theatre of Globe, Ariz.

Cabrini Film Opening

"Citizen Saint," the life of Mother Cabrini film produced by Clyde Elliott and directed by Harold M. Young, will open in Washington at Constitution Hall on April 12.

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Film Costs Boost Reissues, Says Katz

The rise in production costs having made a good deal of independent film-making prohibitive, regional distributors have turned extensively to reissues, and with gratifying results. Harry Katz, partner in Kay Film Exchanges in the South with his brothers, Ike and David, said here at the weekend, before returning to his Atlanta headquarters.

He reported the company is finding in some instances dated films as good "or better" than new ones, citing as examples "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer," "Prisoner of Zenda," "The Garden of Allah," "Captain Caution" and "Captain Fury."

The Kay offices in Washington, Charlotte, Atlanta, Memphis and New Orleans will have handled between 50 and 60 films upon the completion of the first year of operation, Katz declared. The firm originally held the PRC franchises in Charlotte and Atlanta until last summer, at which time it established its own branches.

C. Skouras, Turley Get 2 in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, March 31.—Clarence M. Turley, secretary-treasurer of the Ambassador Building Corp. and the Missouri Theatre Building Corp. here, announced today that control of the corporations has passed to Charles P. Skouras and himself. Turley said that they have acquired sufficient bonds and voting stock to assure joint control, but acquisition of the securities was not a joint venture. Skouras' offer of last October to buy in $4,900,000 outstanding stocks and bonds at 101¾ of par expired today.

Studios, Analysts to Meet

HOLLYWOOD, March 31.—Major producers will meet with the Screen Story Analysts' Guild on Wednesday to set a date for negotiating a new contract The agreement to negotiate with the SSA, which recently withdrew from the Conference of Studio Unions, is the first made with any union which participated in the present strike.

Conduct Talent Quest

Walter Reade Theatres in New Jersey and radio station WAAT will conduct a 10-week talent quest on the stages of several Reade theatres beginning Wednesday, April 15.

Salesmen's Union

(*Continued from page* 1)

by the executive committee at a meeting at the Continental Hotel. It will seek audiences with distributors in New York home offices within the near future.

Bargaining strategy was discussed by the 13 members of the executive committee who convened here from as many sections of the country. Those present for the meeting here were: Pat Halloran, Minneapolis; Keller; Floyd Bernard, San Francisco; Ross Williams, Cincinnati; E. E. Shinn, New Orleans; Richard Lange, Los Angeles; Provencher; Van Dyke; Barry Goldman, Washington; Frank W. Solley, Atlanta; Sam Resnick, Kansas City; Joel Bluestone, New Orleans; D. J. Edele, St. Louis and Beznor.



Stay Upset

(Continued from page 1)

company sales executives on continuing or ignoring competitive bidding, it is apparent that no defendant company will be required to engage in that sales method under the broad terms of the order staying all major provisions of the New York court decree until the Supreme Court has heard and decided the pending appeals.

Companies which continue competitive selling will do so as a matter of individual choice and at their own election. The order which Justice Reed told counsel last Friday he would sign when it is presented to him will exempt all defendants from that form of selling.

Attorneys for the defendants met here yesterday to draw up the order and, after it has been presented to Robert L. Wright, assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, for his approval, it will go to Justice Reed for signature. If Wright disapproves of the form of the order, it is possible that he may submit his own draft of an order to Justice Reed. However, it would have to follow the broad outlines of the stay order described by Justice Reed last Friday in order to get his signature.

Order Due Soon

Attorneys said the order may be ready to send to Washington in a few days, but disagreements on context arose at yesterday's meting. Another session will be held tomorrow. The bulk of the New York Federal Court decree was scheduled to become effective today but attorneys indicated that if any delays are encountered in getting the order to justice Reed or in his signing it, no legal technicalities are expected to be involved. They pointed out that the high court having revealed its intention and having given its directions for a stay, the effective date of the decree is suspended.

Competitive bidding, in any event, was not to have been mandatory until July 1.

The stay order, as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday, gives the industry arbitration system a new lease on life. It will be continued under the order until the Supreme Court appeals have been decided.

A ranking sales executive of a company which has been active in competitive bidding on an experimental basis said yesterday that the stay of the New York decree "leaves everything up in the air." He said he had made no decision yet on whether his company would or would not discontinue competitive bidding while the stay remains in force.

Argument for Bidding

"If we abandon bidding now, we may have to resume it by Supreme Court order next winter," he said. "In that case, the system would be just as strange to our organization then as it is now. But if we continue it, we would be thoroughly familiar with it in the event we are ordered to continue it later."

The top sales executive of one of the companies which has opposed bidding and which asked for a stay of that selling method, also voiced indecision.

"The stay will not prohibit us from offering product on a competitive biding basis," he said. "If we refuse to do it, many of our small accounts will resent their inability to bid on our pictures. If we do accept bids, there will be many other of our accounts who will resent that. I have made no decision and it will be a difficult one to make."

Trade observers believed, however, that those companies which have most vigorously opposed competitive bidding, notably, Columbia, United Artists, Universal, Paramount and Warners, probably will not engage in the system until they required to do so, and that companies which have shown some disposition to embrace the system, notably, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's and RKO Radio, may continue with it, if only on an experimental basis in selected localities.

It is generally agreed that the stay removes the pressure for the time being for single picture selling by nondefendant independent distributors.

Reviews

"San Demetrio, London"

(20th Century-Fox)

Hollywood, March 31

EXHIBITION usefulness here and now of this war picture, produced by Michael Balcon of the Ealing Studios, London, appears decidedly limited. It is the story of a British ship, from which the film takes its title, and interesting in the way so many remarkable war incidents are interesting, but its all male cast contains no names which mean money in American theatres, and it does not generate enough sheer entertainment power to overcome this deficiency. The film had its premiere in London in Jan., 1944.

Following a dedicatory preface paying tribute to the officers and men of the British Merchant Marine, the film tells the story of a British tanker which came to this country in the early phase of the war, prior to America's entry into the conflict, to pick up a cargo of gasoline. On its way back it is attacked by a German raider and abandoned, in flames, by its crew. After several days of drifting in a lifeboat, a portion of the crew comes upon the vessel, still afloat, boards her, extinguishes the fires, and by extraordinary seamanship takes her safely into a British port. The heroic achievements of the men, their hardships, sacrifices and eventual triumph over apparently insurmountable handicaps, make up the action.

The players are: Walter Fitzgerald, Arthur Young, Ralph Michael, Melville Mapp, Barry Leets, Michael Allen, Frederick Piper, Herbert Cameron, John Owers, Gordon Jackson and Robert Beatty. Charles Frend directed, from a screenplay by himself and Robert Hamer, who also acted as associate producer.

Running time, 76 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

W. R. W.

"Vacation Days"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, March 31

SAM KATZMAN'S latest production in the "'Teen Agers" series gives showmen Jerry Wald and Spade Cooley orchestras to mention in their billing, which means something to the "jive" set, and that is about the net value of the picture. It has Freddie Stewart, June Preisser, Frankie Darro and a great many other people in it, but they are handicapped by their material just about all the way.

The script by Hal Collins, concerns some high school boys and girls who go at vacation time to a ranch owned by one of their teachers, and there become enmeshed marginally in a bandit plot about bank robbers which is run off pretty much according to pattern. Mistaken identity that embarrasses credulity has a bearing on what happens, and what happens surpasses belief. Arthur Dreifuss directed, and Maurice Duke is down as associate producer. It is for the very junior trade at best.

Running time, 66 minutes. General audience classification.

W. R. W.

Blanket Exchange

(Continued from page 1)

ple shipping, inspection and vault facilities. NFD and the Selznick Releasing Organization have pending a deal under which the former would handle physical distribution for SRO.

Clark has pointed out to distributors that the following benefits would result with the separation of office and sales from physical handling: lower rents and elimination of long and costly leases; reduced insurance costs; time-saving labor problems; round-the-clock supervision, and removing shipping and warehousing from high-rent districts.

Foundation Dates

(Continued from page 1)

area to elect an exchange area committee and a national trustee.

The following organizing meetings have already been called: Charlotte, April 14, H. F. Kincey, temporary chairman; Chicago, April 16, John Balaban and Ed Zorn, temporary chairman; Salt Lake City, April 16, Sam Gillette and Tracy Barham, temporary chairman; Albany, April 21, Saul J. Ullman and Neil Hellman, temporary chairman; Des Moines, April 21; Leo F. Wolcott and A. H. Blank.

Also: Minneapolis, April 21 at a special luncheon of North Central Allied convention, Charles Winchell, Harry French, Harold Field, Benny Berger and Ted Bolnick, temporary committeemen; Pittsburgh, third week in April, Moe Silver and Maurice Finkel, temporary chairmen; Omaha, May 5, Leo F. Wolcott and A. H. Blank, temporary chairmen; Seattle, May 5-8 at convention of Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, J. M. Hone, temporary chairman.

Tomorrow the organization committee, of which Leonard L. Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., is chairman, will announce the full list of dates and places of the field meetings, together with the area committees and temporary chairmen appointed by the incorporators of the foundation.

MPA Meets

(Continued from page 1)

resignation from the Association, which, under the by-laws, is effective in one year.

It was decided to call a special membership meeting shortly to consider a proposal to increase from one to two the number of directors from each company.

The following officers of the Motion Picture Association were elected by the Board of Directors to serve for the next year: Johnston, president and chairman of the board; Joseph I. Breen, vice-president; Francis S. Harmon, vice - president; George Borthwick, secretary and treasurer; Sidney Schreiber, assistant secretary; Fred W. DuVall, assistant treasurer, and James S. Howie, assistant secretary-treasurer.

The following directors were elected: Johnston, Barney Balaban, Nate J. Blumberg, George Borthwick, Jack Cohn, Cecil B. DeMille, Ned E. Depinet, E. W. Hammons, E. B. Hatrick, Joseph H. Hazen, Hal E. Roach, Herman Robbins, Nicholas M. Schenck, Spyros P. Skouras and Albert Warner.

The board adopted a resolution of appreciation for the services of Carl E. Milliken, who for 21 years has served as secretary of the Motion Picture Association and its predecessor. Milliken, who will be 70 next July, is retiring as an officer of the Association.

The following were present at the annual meeting and at meetings of the board of directors: Cohn, Columbia; William B. Levy, Walt Disney Prod.; Earle W. Hammons, Educational Pictures; T. Kennedy Stevenson, Electrical Research Products Division of Western Electric Company; Nicholas M. Schenck and J. Robert Rubin, Loew's; Arthur Israel, Paramount; Seymour Poe, Principal Prod.; John M. Whitaker, RKO Radio; W. C. Michel, 20th Century-Fox; Nate Blumberg and John J. O'Connor, Universal; Joseph H. Hazen, Hal Wallis Prod.; Albert Warner and Robert W. Perkins, Warner Bros.; and the following MPA officers: Johnston, Francis S. Harmon, Milliken, Borthwick, Joyce O'Hara, assistant to the president, and Gerald M. Mayer, managing director of the International Division.

Jackson Park Case

(Continued from page 1)

said: "The defendants, having lost their case on the merits, have sought to weaken and make innocuous the relief to be afforded by various proposals of their own which, if entered, will serve as escape clauses from any effective enforcement of the injunction and compel the plaintiffs to re-litigate the case in order to enforce the decree."

McConnell further contended that Judge Michael L. Igoe's District Court had properly rejected the proposals of the defendants.

The defendants have 12 days, or until April 11, in which to file a final rebuttal brief. It is expected that the Circuit Court of Appeals will hear the Jackson Park case some time in April, with the Appeals Court expected to render a decision between 30 days and three months after hearing oral arguments. Like the previous Jackson Park case, it is expected that the loser will appeal to the Supreme Court.

Republic To Elect 5 Directors Today

Election of five Republic directors to three-year terms will be held here today at the annual meeting of stockholders of Republic Pictures Corp. Harry M. Goetz, Samuel Becker, Harry C. Mills, Arthur J. Miller and Walter L. Titus, Jr., have been nominated to fill vacancies on the board.

Herbert J. Yates, president of the company, arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast.

German Says Brulatour Co. Will Not Interfere

Disavowing any intentions "of interfering in the operations of Republic," William J. German, head of J. E. Brulatour, Inc., has declared that nomination of two candidates for the Republic board of directors was made at the request of Republic's management. Beyond suggesting two directors, he added, the Brulatour company, which owns some stock in Republic, will take "no part in the stockholders' meeting except to send our proxy to the management."

The Brulatour company has "no association with any person or group of persons for any purpose regarding Republic," German stated, and pointed out that ownership by his company of Republic stock "is purely incidental" to its interest in Republic as "a good customer for raw stock."

M. P. Associates Cast Award Votes

Ballots for the winner of the "Beacon Award" were cast yesterday at a luncheon meeting of Motion Picture Associates at the Hotel Piccadilly, here. Candidates for the award, conferred annually for "meritorious and patriotic service" were Spyros Skouras, Barney Balaban, Jack Cohn, Samuel Rinzler, Arthur Mayer and Harold Rodner. The winner will be announced on May 16 at the organization's annual dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here.

Fred Schwartz, president, was chairman. A vote also was taken on two resolutions. One would lower the age for life membership in the organization from 65 years to 60, and the other would change the procedure on the issuance of welfare checks.

George Schaefer and S. H. Fabian have been previous award winners.

Samuel Lindenstein, 72

HOLLYWOOD, March 31. — Funeral services will be held tomorrow at Forest Lawn cemetery here for Samuel Lindenstein, 72, Hollywood representative for Jay Emanuel Publications, who died on Friday of a heart attack. His widow survives.

NY Mono, 'Showcase'

(*Continued from page* 1)

plained, if the company cannot arrive at arrangements for securing an exclusive "showcase," it will endeavor to set up a deal with another distributor company for sharing one.

Broidy will leave New York on Thursday for Miami to attend the Saturday opening there of Allied Artists' "It Happened on Fifth Avenue." Following the premiere he will return here, and will proceed shortly thereafter to the Coast.

Reviews

"Bells of San Fernando"

(*Screen Guild Productions*)

Hollywood, March 31

LIFE in California in the days of the Dons was, if the screenplay by Jack DeWitt and Renault Duncan is to be believed, a lot of fun for the Dons and not much fun for anyone else.

The Don in question—played to the hilt by Anthony Warde—rules with an iron rod over San Fernando Valley. No one is permitted to enter or leave the valley, and Donald Woods, a tile-setter with an Irish brogue that slips occasionally, is the only outsider who dares brave the Don's wrath. He falls in love with the local blacksmith's daughter, a young lady whom the Don plans to marry, despite the more obvious charms of Shirley O'Hara, cast as a half-breed Indian girl.

When one of the local peons finds gold in the valley, matters come to a long-delayed climax. The blacksmith covets the gold for casting a carillon for the local mission; Don Mendoza, on the other hand, has in mind more practical uses for the yellow metal. His nefarious plan to put out the eyes of the mission priest, and give all the other inhabitants of the valley a sound lashing with a bull-whip for good measure, is thwarted when the governor's men arrive. And none too soon, either. James S. Burkett is credited as producer, and Duncan Renaldo as associate producer. Terry Morse directed at a leisurely pace.

Running time, 74 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, March 1.

THALIA BELL

"Buffalo Bill Rides Again"

(*Screen Guild Productions*)

Hollywood, March 31

THE title of Jack Schwartz's latest production for Screen Guild release is misleading, in that "Buffalo Bill" does not show up, much less does any riding, until half-way through the picture. Meanwhile, there has been plenty of dirty work at the cross roads near the town of Redfield. Seems that an unscrupulous storeekeper, having found oil on land hitherto considered unproductive, is determined to buy it up for two dollars an acre. The settlers, however, prefer to stay where they are—this despite the fact that the country around Redfield is as dreary and disconsolate as any seen lately on the screen. The storekeeper, aided and abetted by a group of strong-arm men, set out to terrorize the settlers into signing away their property rights.

Anyone who has ever seen a Western picture will have no difficulty in predicting the outcome of Barney Sarecky and Fran Gilbert's screenplay. Suffice it to say that Richard Arlen, as "Buffalo Bill," outrides, outshoots and outfights everybody in the cast, which includes Jennifer Holt, Lee Shumway, Gil Patrick, Edward Cassidy and a number of Indians of the Central Casting tribe. Bernard B. Ray directed at a merry clip.

Running time, 70 minutes. General audience classification. T. B.

1946 Earnings Up 39% Over 1945

Twelve amusement and motion picture companies reported earnings of $112,607,548, an increase of 39 per cent over 1945, according to a *Wall Street Journal* survey of 1946 earnings.

In 1945 the same companies reported $81,022,364. The increase was borne out in other industries, most of which reported higher earnings than in 1945.

George Erdmann, 64, Dies in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, March 31.—George W. Erdmann, 64, Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitor Association secretary for the past 20 years, and one-time First National and Universal branch manager, died here Saturday at Warrensville Sanitarium where he had been under treatment for the past eight months for Tuberculosis. His wife died last August. Surviving are a son, George, and two daughters, Florence and Althea.

FM Permit Granted

CHARLOTTE, March 31.—The Federal Communications Commissions has granted a permit to radio station WSOC to build an FM station here.

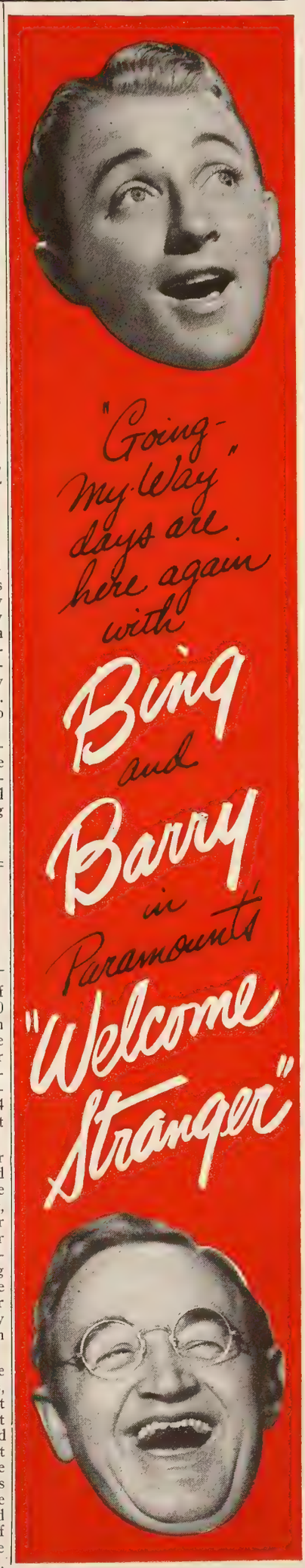
GPE Profit

(*Continued from page* 1)

items consist of the book profit of $890,301 realized on the sale of 39,600 shares of 20th Century-Fox Film Corp. common stock sold during the year at an average price of $49.50 per share, less a write-off of $550,045 representing the excess of cost of investment in subsidiaries acquired in 1944 over their applicable book value at acquisition.

Consolidated net sales for the year amounted to $23,261,996, compared with $25,484,122 in 1945. This volume of net sales, according to the report, is the largest for any peace-time year in the company's history. In his letter to stockholders, Earle G. Hines, president, stated that the manufacturing activities of various subsidiaries were adversely affected as a result of labor disturbances throughout the country and a consequent shortage of certain materials.

"The merchandising of theatre equipment and supplies," said Hines, "greatly increased in spite of the fact that many regular items still were not available for sale except in limited quantities. Operations for the past year were characterized by a large demand for products of subsidiaries and inability to fulfill completely the requirements of customers. At the end of the year a substantial amount of orders remained on the books of the principal subsidiaries," he concluded.



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SMPE Looks For Theatre Telecasting

Need for Allocations Is Stressed at Coast Talks

HOLLYWOOD, April 1. — Importance to the motion picture industry of the recent report made before the Federal Communications Commission by the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, in which certain frequency allocations were requested for a theatre television service, was high-lighted here during conferences just concluded between Paul J. Larsen, Washington SMPE television representative, and Loren L. Ryder, SMPE president.

The conferences here between Larsen and SMPE officials stressed in particular the importance of a unified industry co-operation with the SMPE in

(*Continued on page 2*)

3 Special Trains For Variety Trip

National Variety Clubs International, in cooperation with the Los Angeles tent, has completed plans for the operation of three special trains to the national convention which will be held in the Coast city on May 14-17.

One train, the *Bob O'Donnell Special,* will operate over the Southern

(*Continued on page 6*)

Sweden Promises 'No Discrimination'

Washington, April 1. — The State Department announced today that it had received from the Swedish government a "conciliatory" note which promises that there "will be no discrimination against U. S. product" in the operation of its trade program.

A Department spokesman said the note is still under study, and a further statement will be made in two or three days. The U. S. sent a vigorous protest to Sweden on March 24 after that government put into effect import restrictions "to maintain foreign excess reserves."

Republic to Make Big Ones; Decide Fate of 'B's' Later

Republic will continue its program of expansion, including production of big pictures, Herbert J. Yates, president, told the annual meeting of company stockholders here yesterday.

He reported that the company could anticipate its greatest year in 1947, barring unforeseen conditions beyond its control. The fiscal quarter just ended showed "considerable improvement" over the corresponding period last year, he said.

Republic will decide following its New York, Chicago and Hollywood sales meetings, the first of which opens here today, whether it will eliminate or reduce its "B" product, Yates reported. Higher production costs and exhibitor resistance to absorbing the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Pine Sees Color as Biggest Film 'Star'

Here for home office discussions, William Pine, of Paramount's Pine-Thomas producing unit, said here yesterday that color is Hollywood's biggest star today. He predicted most pictures will eventually be made in color. Pine has already completed two in Cinecolor for Paramount, "Adventure Island" and "Albuquerque."

The industry today, he observed, is faced with the same problem as other industries, namely rising costs. Also, he added, the public today is used to, and wants, better pictures—"which is good for the industry." Observing that

(*Continued on page 6*)

No New Theatre Tax With N. Y. C. Budget

Possibility of a new five per cent tax on theatre admissions in New York City, a levy authorized by the state, was eliminated yesterday with the disclosure of Mayor O'Dwyer's proposed record executive city budget of over one billion dollars. No mention of theatre taxation was made.

However, the Mayor said that to meet the extra outlay the city's tax rate must be jumped to $2.95 per $100 of realty valuations, compared to the present $2.70.

ATA Brief Against 5 Companies Today

American Theatres Association, the Confederacy of Southern Associations and the Southern California Theatre Owners Association will file with the U. S. Supreme Court today a joint brief countering the move by the five theatre-owning distributors in opposition to the three exhibitor groups' efforts to appear as intervenors in the New York equity case.

The three had petitioned the Supreme Court for the right to appeal the New York Federal Court's denial of their petition to intervene. This was opposed by the five companies on the grounds that the high court lacked jurisdiction on an appeal of this nature and, secondly, asserted that the exhibitors were not "inadequately represented" in the case.

The ATA brief today will argue these two points in addition to attacking competitive bidding as illegal.

Col., 'U' Seen Returning to Block Sales

To Try Again Today for Unity on Stay Order

Columbia and Universal will return to the licensing of films in blocks and United Artists will continue single picture selling upon the entry of the order staying the New York Federal court decree, it was indicated yesterday.

None of the three is likely to engage in competitive bidding while the stay is in effect, it is believed.

Meanwhile, counsel for all eight distributor defendants in the industry anti-trust case prepared for a meeting here today at which they will endeavor to reach an agreement on a joint order which would stay major portions of the New York decree in line with Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed's

(*Continued on page 7*)

Agree on Printing Equity Case Record

Printing of the New York Federal Court's record of the industry anti-trust trial for U. S. Supreme Court appeals, and apportionment of costs of the printing, have been agreed upon by all eight distributor defendants and the Department of Justice. Thus, all parties are in accord on this aspect of the case, which previously had loomed as another subject for dispute.

Robert L. Wright, assistant to the Attorney General, and the eight companies will have printed copies of the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Industry Arbiters Get a New Flood of Complaints

Five complaints, four of them challenging the clearance system maintained by M-G-M in Cincinnati and neighboring areas and the fifth seeking "reasonable" maximum clearance in place of existing availability made by 20th Century-Fox, Warner Brothers and Paramount product, have been filed with the Cincinnati tribunal of the industry arbitration system.

In addition to a sixth case entered in Cincinnati, the American Arbitration Association yesterday reported new clearance cases with the New Haven and Boston boards and an award by the latter tribunal. In all, eight new cases were reported.

The Cincinnati cases, stemming from the 28-days' clearance after first run in downtown Cincinnati, established by M-G-M for subsequent runs, are unanimous in seeking a finding that the clearance setup is unreasonable. Similar complaints, varying only with respect to the individual theatres involved, were made by Harmony Amusement Co., operating the Park Theatre; Royal Theatre Co., operating the Imperial; Willis Vance

(*Continued on page 7*)

CPA Approves Six Theatre Permits

Washington, April 1.—Plans for constructing or remodeling six film theatres in various parts of the country have been approved by the Civilian Production Administration's facilities review committee.

The owners and locations are: Sidney Talley, Pleasonton, Tex.; Paul Foil, Mt. Pleasant, N. C.; Lester R. Reed, Kinston, N. C.; Sabar Amusement Corp., Camden; Irving Bobson, Goulds, Fla.; Gelda Woolman, Drain, Ore.

Personal Mention

BEN GOETZ, head of M-G-M's British production, is due in New York from the Coast on Monday, en route to London.

•

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, president of 20th Century-Fox, and MURRAY SILVERSTONE, president of 20th-International, who are on a Latin American tour, arrived in Lima, Peru, yesterday.

•

DAN FISH, now producing industrials in London, was on the trans-Atlantic telephone yesterday advising he intends visiting New York in May for the first time since the war.

•

JENNIFER JONES and JOSEPH COTTEN are in Boston for location-shooting at Graves Lighthouse in connection with "Portrait of Jennie."

•

AUSTIN C. KEOUGH, Paramount vice-president in charge of legal affairs, is due back in New York tomorrow from Boca Grande, Fla.

•

EDMUND C. GRAINGER, Shea Circuit head, is expected to return here on April 14 from a vacation in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

•

JASON JOY, 20th-Fox studio personnel head, is in New York from the Coast.

•

MARY PICKFORD is in New York from Hollywood.

•

DANIEL T. O'SHEA, president of Vanguard Films, is enroute here.

NJ Owners Meeting Today on Tax Bill

The Federation of New Jersey Theatres will meet this morning in the Newark office of Frank Damis of Warner Brothers, to plan action against a proposed state bill which would allow local taxes on theatre admissions.

Those scheduled to be present include: George Gold, Edward Lachman, Bud Hunt, P. Gage, W. Phillips, H. Meakin, Harold Blumenthal, S. Varbalow, I. Epstein, L. Rosenblatt and Damis.

10% Admission Levy Pends in Wisconsin

MILWAUKEE, April 1. — A 10 per cent levy on theatre admissions is among 14 new taxes sought by the assembly's committee on military affairs to finance a state veterans' bonus bill aimed at raising between $128,000,000 and $138,000,000.

The measure was drafted by a special subcommittee of Walter S. Fisher, Roy H. Sengstock and Alex Raineri.

Mamula Farewell Lunch

Nick Mamula, who is leaving United Artists's publicity department, will be given a luncheon this week by publicity manager Tom Waller and his staff.

Foundation Calendar

The following area organization meetings have been called by the Motion Picture Foundation, of which Barney Balaban is temporary steering committee chairman (local temporary chairmen are listed below):

April 14—Charlotte, H. F. Kincey.

April 16—Chicago, John Balaban and Ed Zorn.

April 16—Salt Lake City, Sam Gillette and Tracy Barham.

April 21—Albany, Saul J. Ullman and Neil Hellman.

April 21—Des Moines, Leo F. Wolcott and A. H. Blank.

April 21—Minneapolis (At a special North Central Allied luncheon), Charles Winchell, Harry French, Harold Field, Benny Berger and Ted Bolnick (temporary committeeman).

Third Week of April—Pittsburgh, Moe Silver and Maurice Finkel.

May 5—Omaha, Leo F. Wolcott and A. H. Blank.

May 5-8—Seattle (At convention of Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Exhibitors), J. M. Hone.

Approve Removal of Construction Curbs

WASHINGTON, April 1.—Abolition of all curbs on commercial construction has been tentatively approved by the House Banking and Currency Committee.

The committee votes tomorrow on the final draft of a rent control-housing bill. However, the committee tentatively agreed to provisions repealing the Veterans Emergency Housing Act, under which the Government limits non-residential construction and channels materials into home building.

Administration officials have opposed any immediate removal of the construction curbs, and it is believed that the Senate will also oppose any such proposal, if it passes the House.

Vote More Funds for House Committee

WASHINGTON, April 1.—The House Administration Committee has voted an additional $50,000 to the House Committee on Un-American Activities. It also repealed a provision limiting the committee staff to 10.

Rep. Thomas, chairman of the investigating group, said the additional funds would be used to expand the committee's staff and enlarge its activities.

Indiana Lease Bought

INDIANAPOLIS, April 1. — A group including Arthur J. Steel and Harold Mirisch of New York has bought a long-term lease on Keith's Theatre here from the Keith Operating Co. for a reported $250,000. The Keith is headed by Sam Roberts and Nick Boila of Chicago. The new owners will assume operation on April 30.

$7,110 Music Bill to Newsreels from AFM

Under the terms of a recently-effected 18-month contract with James C. Petrillo's American Federation of Musicians, the newsreels here agree to each hire a 30-piece band or orchestra for six three-hour recording sessions during that period, to satisfy AFM demands that the reels compensate for the use of background music from their music libraries. The new music recorded goes into the reels' backlog for later use.

At the rate of $39.50 per musician, per session, the bill for each reel runs to about $1,185 for each session, or a total of $7,110 for the six.

Fete UK Paramount Winners Tonight

The six members of Paramount's British organization who won the company's British sales drive, will be guests of the Paramount Pictures Club at a reception at the home office this evening. Principal speaker at the occasion, which will be attended by company executives and employes, will be Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board of directors. Claude Lee, director of public relations, will be master of ceremonies. Prior to the reception the six will be the company's guests at a dinner at Sardi's, here.

The six, who were awarded trips to America as prizes, are: Dave Gilpin, Ashley Bate, Thomas Ledger, Clifford Cox, Nellie Nisbet and Alice Holt. They recently returned here from a visit to Hollywood, and are scheduled to return to England aboard the *Queen' Elizabeth* next Wednesday.

Funeral Rites for Mrs. Ida Cohen, 86

Funeral services were held here yesterday for Mrs. Ida Cohen, 86, mother of Samuel Cohen, foreign publicity director of United Artists, who died on Monday.

Mrs. Cohen for more than 30 years was active in many charitable and philanthropic institutions, including the Beth-Abraham Home for Incurables, of which she was an organizer, and the Home of the Daughters of Israel. Besides her son she leaves three other sons, Ben, Sol and Alex, and six grandchildren.

Harry Levy, father of Celeste Levy, secretary to Sam Cohen, United Artists foreign publicity manager, died at his home here Monday night.

Pictorial Names Agency

Buchanan and Co. has been appointed advertising representative for Pictorial Films by Lloyd Lind, Pictorial president. Charles M. Amory will be account executive. Pictorial is now completing plans for expansion of its 16mm. production and distribution facilities.

Newsreel Parade

ERIC JOHNSTON'S testimony on Communism in the film industry is highlighted in all current newsreels. Other items of interest include General Eisenhower's Army Day address, the U. N. commission on Greek warfare and the sweepstake winners. Complete contents follows:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 62—General Eisenhower's message for Army Day. U. N. mission probes civil warfare on Greek border. Eric Johnston says Communists do not infiltrate motion pictures. 100-to-one outsider wins British grand national. Sweepstake winners.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 260—Films of grand national. Sweepstake winners. Army Week special: Eisenhower asks aid. Eric Johnston on Communism. First Greek guerrilla films.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 63 — Army Week observed across the nation. Eric Johnston testifies on Communism. World's toughest horse-race, the grand national.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 65—Grand national and sweepstake winners. The U. N. commission at the Greek front. Eisenhower's Army Week message.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 26 — General Eisenhower delivers Army Day address. Eric Johnston tells House un-American committee that U. S. films are the primary hate of Communists. 100-to-one shot wins grand national.

Eddie Bracken Plans Comedy Production

Eddie Bracken plans to produce, direct and act in a series of comedies starting about June 1. Bracken intends to film the first of these, ".750 Smith," a baseball yarn, entirely in New York, using name sportsmen.

SMPE Looks for Video

(*Continued from page* 1)

soliciting these frequency allocations; this move being to forestall any competitive and conflicting requests of the FCC which might tie up the air, with no bands held in "escrow" for the picture film business.

"Whether this unified co-operation and participation should be by joint action of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, the Association of Independent Motion Picture Producers, and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, or by some new governing group, dedicated exclusively to theatre television projects" was the principal topic of discussion during Larsen's stay here.

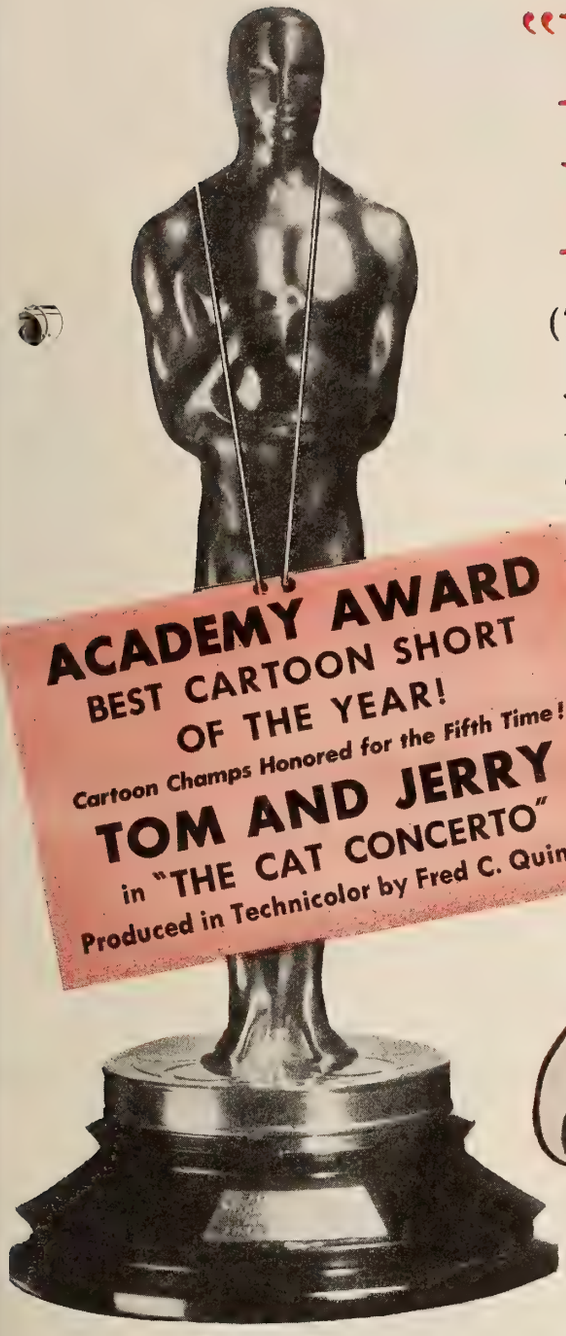
Even though it is generally admitted here that theatre television is not necessarily "just around the corner," it is likewise freely predicted that television is sure to have its day in theatres as well as the homes of the nation, the SMPE says.

Sensing either a hesitation or a procrastination on the part of the film industry to face this eventuality, at the same time confidently aware of the inevitable future of theatre television, the SMPE is pressing vigorously its petition now before the FCC for adequate frequency bands to assure free and open channels for nationwide television transmission to theatres when the need for that service arrives.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 215 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

"LOOK WHO'S HERE AGAIN!"

(That makes it 17 Oscars for M-G-M Shorts in 11 years, more than twice any other company!)



ACADEMY AWARD
BEST CARTOON SHORT OF THE YEAR!
Cartoon Champs Honored for the Fifth Time!
TOM AND JERRY
in "THE CAT CONCERTO"
Produced in Technicolor by Fred C. Quimby



M-G-MONEY SHORTS!

Book Them Solid!

- 16 TOM AND JERRY CARTOONS *(in Technicolor)* / M-G-M TECHNICOLOR CARTOONS
- 10 PETE SMITH SPECIALTIES
- 12 FITZPATRICK TRAVELTALKS *(in Technicolor)*
- 6 JOHN NESBITT'S PASSING PARADE
- 4 M-G-M 2-REEL SPECIALS
- 104 ISSUES— NEWS OF THE DAY

Thanks to your bookings of our Shorts, Mr. Exhibitor, we are enabled to continue production of the quality subjects that win profits and prizes! The purpose of Shorts is to enliven the program and to bring in extra revenue. M-G-M spares no expense to accomplish both. *You* make that possible by your continued support.



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SPECIALTIES
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EK ON BROADWAY!



FRANK BORZAGE'S

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starring

Don **AMECHE** • *Catherine* **McLEOD**

Lovely Star of "I've Always Loved You"

with

Roscoe Karns • John Ridgely • Kitty Irish • Joe Frisco

and Joe Hernandez, Nationally Famous Racing Announcer

Produced and Directed by FRANK BORZAGE

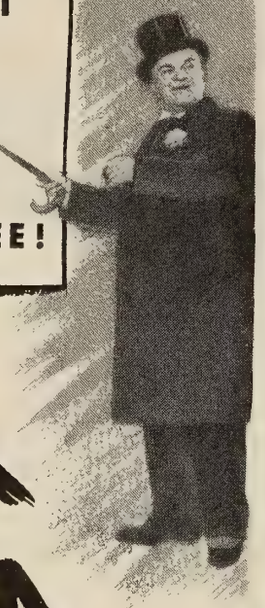
Written by Steve Fisher and Bradley King

REPUBLIC PICTURES

C PICTURE

HOLLYWOOD'S GREATEST DIRECTORS SAY THAT

"IT HAPPENED ON 5TH AVENUE" IS *THE* PICTURE TO SEE!



FRANK CAPRA Says



"It's truly wonderful. I was delighted!"

ALLIED ARTISTS PRODUCTIONS, INC., presents

DON DeFORE ANN HARDING CHARLIE RUGGLES

VICTOR MOORE GALE STORM

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"IT HAPPENED ON 5TH AVENUE"

with GRANT MITCHELL • EDWARD BROPHY • EDWARD RYAN, JR.

Produced & Directed by ROY DEL RUTH • Associate Producer JOE KAUFMAN

Screenplay by EVERETT FREEMAN • Story by HERBERT CLYDE LEWIS & FREDERICK STEPHANI

Musical Score by EDWARD WARD • Music and Lyrics by HARRY REVEL and PAUL WEBSTER

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CHICAGO

Pre-Easter business is proving very good, with two theatres having combination stage shows and films dominating the Loop field. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 2-3:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 14th week. Gross: $17,000 (Average: $12,000)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c) 3rd week of film, 2nd week of stage show. On stage: King Cole Trio. Gross: $52,000. (Average: $62,000)

13 RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $13,000)

SMASH-UP (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE RED HOUSE (UA)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c) 2nd week. On stage: Jan August and Jerry Lester. Adults only. Gross: $57,000. (Average: $48,000)

BEDELIA (PRC) and THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (65c-95c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,000)

PURSUED (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (95c) 6th week. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $29,000)

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $27,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (Advanced admission prices: 95c-$1.20-$1.40-$1.80) 15th week. Gross: $34,000. (Average: $28,000) (Regular admission price: 95c; regular average: $20,000)

PITTSBURGH

Despite extremely bad weather and the usual seasonal slump, "The Best Years of Our Lives" lost very little ground in its fourth week in the Fulton, to lead others in grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 3:

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—FULTON (1,700) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.20-$1.40) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average at regular admission prices of 40c-55c-70c: $9,700)

SMASH UP (U-I)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 4 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $11,000)

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $25,000)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,500)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 6th week, on a moveover from the Harris. Gross: $3,200. (Average: $3,200)

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $25,000)

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,000)

3 Variety Trains

(*Continued from page* 1)

route and will carry the Atlanta and Dallas delegations to Los Angeles. Charlotte will probably join up with the Atlanta delegation for the trip.

Two Northern specials, the *John H. Harris* and the *Variety Clubs International* will be operated, one by Pennsylvania Railroad and one over the New York Central route. These two units will be joined in Chicago and from there will operate over the Santa Fe. Both northern specials will leave New York and Eastern cities on Friday, May 9, arriving in Chicago May 10, from where the cars will leave at 10 A. M. for a 50-hour schedule to California.

Industry executives will pick up the Boston cars in Albany and additional cars in Buffalo, Cleveland, Toledo, Detroit and Grand Rapids.

A group of industry people in San Francisco have petitioned for a charter for a Variety Club of Northern California, R. J. O'Donnell, national chief barker reports at headquarters here.

The new tent will establish clubrooms in the Tivoli Building. The petitioners are: Abe and Joseph Blumenfeld, Roy Cooper, Neal East, Rotus Harvey, J. Leslie and N. P. Jacobs, Herman Kersken, Jack Marpole, J. D. McNerney, R. A. McNeil, M. F. Naify, Jimmy O'Neal, William Parker, Homer Tegmeier, Jack Tillman and O. H. Watson.

Pine Sees Color

(*Continued from page* 1)

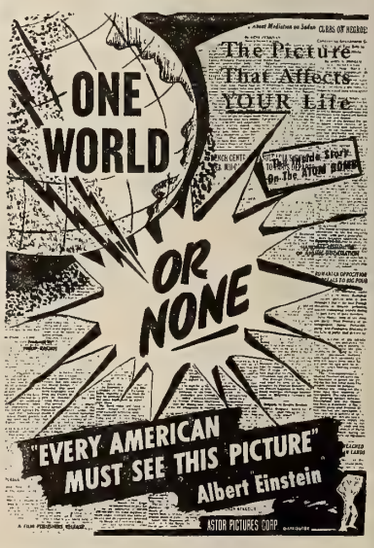
the quality of foreign pictures has improved, he said that "this too is good, because it keeps Hollywood on its toes and the public benefits thereby."

Pine, who in the past five years, has made 42 pictures, praised Hollywood Production Code officials as being very helpful and cited the code as "a workable rule to maintain good taste." He pointed out that it is flexible enough to meet "new needs of changing times and customs." The need for good taste in films was further emphasized by Pine who said that "no other art medium can compare with the motion picture in showing the American way of life to foreign nations. Thus if license and alcoholism are shown in excess, we are not showing our country as it really is.

BOOK NOW!

ALBERT EINSTEIN

Endorsed This Picture!



AT ALL ASTOR EXCHANGES

B & Q Gets Interest In Boston Theatre

BOSTON, April 1.—Donald Jaycocks and Alexander Kilpatrick, president and treasurer, respectively, of B. and Q. Associations, a 22-theatre New England circuit, have secured a half-interest in the Tremont Theatre here from James Mage. The downtown, 2,200-seat house will be renovated and converted into an extended first-run theatre.

The recently acquired nine Cocalis [illegible]atres in New Jersey. Berk and Krumgold arranged the Tremont deal.

Philco Income Over Three Millions in '46

PHILADELPHIA, April 1. — Philco Corp. had a 1946 net income of $3,107,480, or $2.13 per common share after preferred dividends and taxes, despite an operating loss for the first nine months of the year. The corporation's annual report, which was mailed to stockholders today, adds that Philco's output during the fourth quarter of 1946 was higher than its wartime peak. Total 1946 sales were $121,596,622, compared to $119,129,378 in 1945.

Republic, Autry Settle

HOLLYWOOD, April 1.—Confirming a recent MOTION PICTURE DAILY report, Gene Autry and Republic Pictures have reached an out-of-court settlement of their dispute. Autry will make two more pictures for Republic, one this month and one in December, regardless of pending court action.

Republic to Make

(Continued from page 1)

increase make that product a problem, he said.

Yates and other officers were re-elected. They include James R. Grainger, executive vice-president; Walter L. Titus, Edward L. Walton, John J. O'Connell, Arthur J. Miller, vice-presidents; John Petrauska, Jr., treasurer; Joseph E. McMahon, secretary. Titus and Miller were re-elected directors, and Samuel Becker, Harry M. Goetz and Harry C. Mills were elected to the board. The latter three represent Goetz-J. E. Brulatour, Inc., interests, which already had three representatives on the board.

Equity Case Record

(Continued from page 1)

full testimony and a book by Wright in which are described generally the nature of hundreds of exhibits entered in the case. If reproductions of all the exhibits had been necessary, the cost of printing the record would have been many times over the $5,000 which is estimated to cover the printing costs agreed upon.

The companies will divide the major portion of the cost and the Department of Justice, it is understood, will absorb a small part.

NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS
C and G FILM EFFECTS
723 7th Ave., N.Y.C. • LA 4-2226
TITLES and TRAILERS, SUPERIMPOSING OPTICAL EFFECTS
CUTTING ROOMS, COLOR REPRODUCTIONS

Block Sales

(Continued from page 1)

suggestions for such an order last Friday in Washington.

UA, Columbia and Universal will insist that all distribution provisions of the decree be stayed, excepting agreements on clearances and franchise deals, and in the event an accord is not reached at today's meeting, they are determined to file a separate stay order with Justice Reed immediately following today's session. George Raftery, for United Artists; Louis Frohlich, Columbia, and probably Thomas Turner Cooke, for Universal, intend to make the trip to Washington if attorneys for the other five distributors stand apart in their views.

All five major defendants were at odds on the context of the stay order at the first meeting on the subject here Monday. Both lawyers and home office executives were noncommittal yesterday when queried about possible changes in their positions.

Frohlich is confident that regardless of what the "Big Five" ask in the way of postponement, the order to be presented by the "Little Three," if a separate one is necessary, will be signed by Reed and that Robert L. Wright, assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, will offer no objections. The order must first be presented to Wright.

Universal was the only one of the "Little Three" which engaged in bidding to any extent. This came about when theatres requested a run under the provision of the New York decree which enjoined distributors from arbitrarily refusing such run.

Paramount and Loew's are reported to be leaning in the direction of the "Little Three's" views of the stay order, with the exception of a stay on single picture selling, sought by Columbia and Universal. Warners and RKO Radio are said to be following a conciliatory course, more or less hoping for an agreement among the others to which they could subscribe. Twentieth Century-Fox counsel is said to be adamant against a stay of competitive bidding and other decree features which are sought by the others. This suggests the possibility that 20th-Fox might resort to a proposed stay order of its own.



Flying is the way to travel to—
CHICAGO
PITTSBURGH
LOS ANGELES
—and TWA is the friendly way to fly.
See your travel agent or phone
LExington 2-7100
Save time with TWA AIRFREIGHT
TWA
TRANS WORLD AIRLINE

20th-Fox Upheld in Biographical Suit

HOLLYWOOD, April 1.—A precedent in connection with biographical film subjects was established today when Federal Judge Campbell Beaumont found for 20th Century-Fox in a suit for $100,000 in damages sought by song-writer Jean Schwartz, who charged that his reputation and health were damaged by alleged misrepresentation of facts concerning him in "The Dolly Sisters." Dropping the case on completion of the prosecution's case, and before the defense offered argument, Beaumont allowed "considerable latitude" in portraying living persons on the screen.

Arbitration

(Continued from page 1)

and Gordon Pape, operating the 20th Century Theatre, who also entered a companion complaint against Paramount, Warner Brothers and 20th Century-Fox; and Highland Amusement Co., operating the Highland in Fort Thomas, Ky. Day-and-date availability is sought by the Harmony and Royal.

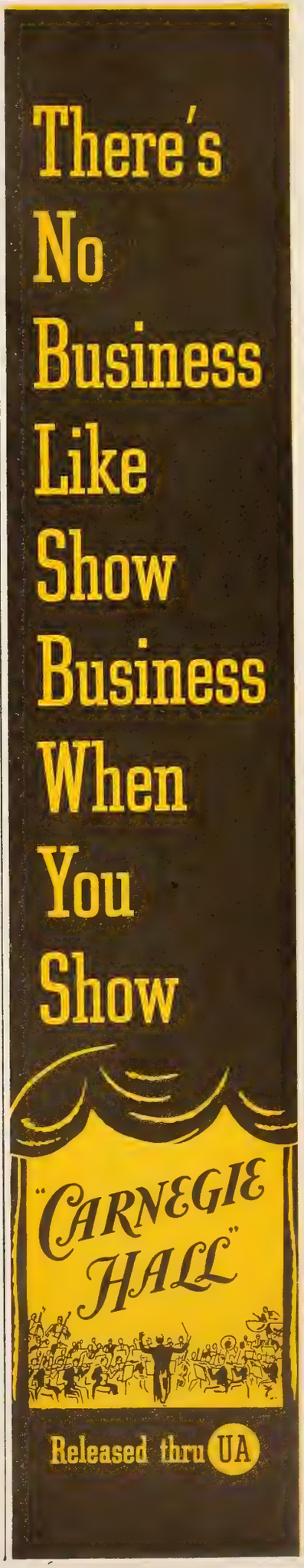
In their complaint against the other three distributors, Vance and Pape point out that product from those companies are available on the seventh Sunday after the end of the first or second week of downtown runs. Except for M-G-M, which the 20th Century Theatre cites in another complaint, all companies, including RKO Radio, maintain this uniform system. However, they assert, their theatre, along with 22 other subsequent-run houses in Cincinnati, is subject to the prior-run held by the RKO Paramount Theatre, operated by RKO Midwest Corp. Vance and Gordon ask for an arbitration ruling that the seventh Sunday clearance, as well as RKO Paramount's prior-run are unreasonable, and seek reasonable maximum clearance for first-runs there.

The sixth Cincinnati case, filed by Ames Theatre Co., which operates the Ames Theatre in Dayton, seeks day and date availability for M-G-M product with all other suburban houses in the area. The Ames, the complaint maintains, is not in "substantial competition with any other suburban house" in the Dayton area. All suburban theatres are subject to seventh Sunday clearance, it declares.

Naming all five participating companies, the Boston complaint, by Harold Amusement Corp., which operates the Starlight in Pascoag, R. I., seeks reduction to one day, or abolition entirely of the present 19 to 14 days' clearance to which the Starlight is subject after the Stadium, Bijou and Park in Woonsocket, R. I.

The New Haven case, which also names all five distributing companies, seeks the elimination of clearance held by the Lyric, Hartford, over the complainant's Rivoli, and reduction of the 37-day clearance after first-run in Hartford to 30 days.

The Boston award, in which all five companies are defendants, established a maximum clearance of 28 days for the Opera House, Bellows Falls, Vt., over the State Theatre, also of Bellows Falls. The award further held that the 28-day maximum was to be reduced when necessary to make defendants' pictures available to the State 60 days after availability to the Opera House, or one day after finished playing at the Opera House.





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In spite of the obvious improvement that Simplified High Intensity Projection can make on your screen, it is actually low in cost. In fact, just a few extra admissions per show will more than pay for it.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 65 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 1947 TEN CENTS

Rank Contract With U-I Is For 21 Years

British Industry Gains In Stature: Benjamin

The J. Arthur Rank-Universal-International contractual arrangements are for a period of 21 years, Robert Benjamin, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization here, said yesterday following his return from London.

His British visit coincided with the presence there of Arthur Krim, president of Rank's Eagle-Lion Flms here; Joseph Seidelman, Universal vice-president and international chief; James Franey, president of United World, the U-I 16mm. distributing company, and Jock Lawrence, publicity head of the J. Arthur Rank Organization. Krim and Lawrence returned here with Benjamin.

As announced some time ago, the Rank-Universal contract makes the

(*Continued on page* 4)

Approve Six of 28 New U-I Exchanges

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The Civilian Production Administration has granted permission to Joseph M. Berne of Universal Film Exchanges, Inc., to construct six film exchange buildings in various parts of the country for distribution of Universal-International and United World films.

Applications for 22 other exchanges are still pending. Estimated construction cost of the six approved buildings is $1,130,000, to be located in Dallas, Omaha, Kansas City, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Atlanta.

The applications were granted on the ground that increases in the volume of business were creating fire hazards in existing exchanges.

Roach to Produce Two-Part Comedies

HOLLYWOOD, April 2.—"Two-part comedy features," running 110 minutes, and composed of two distinct subjects combined under a master title, will be offered exhibitors on "A" terms by Hal Roach through a distribution channel to be determined next week, the producer announced

(*Continued on page* 4)

Economy of Words Marks Stay Order

The order for a stay of the New York Federal Court decree is a masterpiece of word economy and simplicity. It lists the defendants in the case, refers to the hearing on stay petitions held by Justice Reed last Friday in Washington, and then decrees:

"And it appearing that the stays applied for are necessary to preserve the *status quo* pending the appeals

"Now therefore it is ordered, subject to further order of the Supreme Court, that paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 of Section 2 and paragraph 1 of Section 3 as it refers to paragraph 6 of Section 2, and Section 5 are hereby stayed and suspended as to all defendant appellants pending determination of appeals to this court taken."

Provisions covered by the paragraphs of the stay order numbered above are explained elsewhere in this issue.

Republic, Babe Ruth Talk Story Deal

Negotiations between Republic and Babe Ruth for rights to the screen biography of "The King of Swat" are under way and will be closed shortly, James R. Grainger, Republic executive vice-president, disclosed yesterday. The baseball star was honor guest at a luncheon given yesterday by Herbert J. Yates, Republic president, and Grainger, and he was also given an ovation when he put in an appearance at the two-day regional sales convention which began in the morning.

Division managers and district and branch managers in the Eastern, New England and Central districts were told by Yates that exhibitors had responded to Republic's Trucolor proc-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Jersey Owners Set Monday Tax Meeting

A two-fold plan of action against threatened state legislation which would empower localities to levy theatre admission taxes was formulated yesterday at a meeting of the Federation of New Jersey Theatres, held at the Warner exchange in Newark. Preliminary plans for the placing of full-page anti-tax advertisements in New Jersey papers were agreed upon, and a Federation-spon-

(*Continued on page* 7)

AGREE ON DRAFT OF STAY ORDER

Bidding 'Hardships' Cited in ATA Brief

Declaring themselves to be immediately bound by the New York Federal Court decree, a point disputed by the five theatre-owning companies, American Theatres Association, Confederacy of Southern Associations and the Southern California Theatre Owners Association yesterday submitted to the U. S. Supreme Court a joint brief supporting their appeal from the denial of their petition to intervene in the New York suit.

ATA, CSA and SCTOA assert that independent exhibitors would incur hardships in consequence of competitive bidding. The company defendants contend that the exhibitor groups are "not inadequately" represented in the case and challenge the upper court's jurisdiction over their appeal.

See Film Classics a National Distributor

"Film Classics will, in the near future, become a major distributing organization, offering complete facilities on a nationwide and foreign basis for top independent producers," Joseph Bernhard, president, declared here yesterday at the home office. The company already has 14 wholly-owned exchanges in the U. S.

Plans underway also call for the production of some pictures by the company, which until now has been engaged only in the distribution of reissues.

"The Patient Vanishes," made in England by Pathe Pictures, Ltd., and starring James Mason, will be the first non-reissue film to be distributed by Film Classics. A deal is now being negotiated for a pre-release Broadway run in about two months.

Carpenters' Board Spurns Strike Talk

INDIANAPOLIS, April 2.—The Hollywood strike is not on the agenda of the board meeting of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, which opened here today, William Hutcheson, president, reports.

"There's nothing to talk about," he said. "As far as we are concerned we

(*Continued on page* 4)

20th-Fox May Take an Exception; Expect Reed to Sign Tomorrow

By GENE ARNEEL

Agreement on a sweeping, single order postponing operation of the distribution portions of the New York Federal Court's anti-trust decree and continuing arbitration, was reached here yesterday by seven of the eight distributor defendants in the case. Twentieth Century-Fox was the sole dissenter.

Actually, the document which Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed is expected to sign tomorrow, covers all eight companies in compliance with Reed's directive of last Friday that one joint order be submitted to him for his signature. However, 20th Century-Fox can seek to exempt itself with a proposal of an amendment to the high court.

Attorneys for 20th-Fox refused to

(*Continued on page* 7)

20th Sales Policy Waits Decree Stay

Whether or not 20th Century-Fox will continue sales policies it has essayed thus far under the terms of the Federal Court's decree in the industry anti-trust case is a moot question. Tom J. Connors, the company's vice-president in charge of sales, said yesterday that no decision on that point would be made until after the Supreme Court has signed the stay

(*Continued on page* 7)

15-Day Stay Given In $2,650,000 Case

CHICAGO, April 2.—Defendants in a $2,650,000 treble damage anti-trust suit filed here by Middle States Corp. and Riverside Operating Co. today were given an additional 15 days, until April 17, in which to file answers. However, it is understood attempts to settle the case out of court are now

(*Continued on page* 7)

Personal Mention

W. RAY JOHNSTON, Monogram board chairman, will leave the Coast today by train for New York from where he will sail for Europe next Wednesday on the *Queen Elizabeth*.

•

ALISON HOLMAN, daughter of RUSSELL HOLMAN, Eastern production manager of Paramount, was married yesterday in Old Greenwich, Conn., to EDGAR ALVON FITTER, JR. The couple will reside in New Orleans.

•

MAURICE SILVERSTEIN, regional director for Loew's International in Latin America, has returned to New York from Panama.

•

LEO SELIGMAN, treasurer of Favorite Films, will leave New York tomorrow for a two-week Miami Beach vacation.

•

MAX WEINBERG has been appointed Eastern short subjects representative in charge of M-G-M short subjects publicity.

•

RED KANN, Quigley Publishing Co. vice-president, celebrates a birthday today.

•

S. B. VANDELDEN, Chicago, has been appointed sales manager of Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Co., Atlanta.

•

DANNY KAYE and MRS. KAYE (SYLVIA FINE) are due in New York today from the Coast.

•

BILL PIERCE, publicity director for Benedict Bogeaus Prod., left here for Hollywood yesterday.

•

LOUIS B. MAYER is in San Francisco from Hollywood for a physical check-up.

•

SOL SACHS, RKO branch manager in Dallas, is visiting in New York.

AMPA To Elect New Executives Today

The Associated Motion Picture Advertisers will hold its annual election at a closed meeting in the Town Hall Club today. The new slate consists of Arnold Stoltz, president; Phil Williams, vice-president; Max Stein, treasurer; Marguerite Wayburn, secretary.

Rutgers Neilson, who now heads the organization, will preside at the luncheon-meeting.

Defer Bill to End Construction Curbs

WASHINGTON, April 2.—A House committee today postponed until April 16 final action on a bill to end all curbs on commercial construction. The committee has tentatively agreed to favor such a measure and House approval is considered likely. It is, however, expected to face difficulties in the Senate.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

WHAT the sensible and seasoned William F. Rodgers earnestly believes, as per the news columns of MOTION PICTURE DAILY:

"He . . . does not share the belief in some quarters that a recession is in prospect, but does believe that too much talk about one may lead to an artificial recession."

■

What the vice-president in charge of M-G-M distribution offers as an antidote for recession jitters:

"More work within the industry, particularly in the fields of exhibitor and public relations is needed to maintain good business.

"Better theatre merchandising, better theatre housekeeping, a constructive critical approach and an intelligent effort to attract and hold new customers as health insurance for the new business era."

What his industrial geography did not encompass was Hollywood, it being persistently difficult to get over those mountains to the East. There, too, the challenge applies. It has to be met by enough ingenuity, brainpower, showmanship and cost consciousness to keep quality product flowing.

■

Superior attractions have lost none of their drawing power. We know of one which we are not privileged to designate by title. It has grossed for its distributor better than $4,000,000 in slightly more than 2,000 playdates.

Public response is not lost. It is not even threatened when the merchandise—and the merchandising—has what's required.

■ ■

Howard Dietz, vice-president in charge of advertising - publicity for Loew's, has turned from lyrics to real estate. As president of the Sea of Grass Land Co., Inc., duly incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, he has acquired land in Meridian Township, Valencia County, New Mexico, and has sent your scrivener—and some others, of course—a duly executed deed to an acre.

President Dietz, in distributing his largess, which is rumored to be a memento of a film about grass [the sea of], sends along the following guide book:

"You may find a few gophers or rattlesnakes on your land, in which event you may wish to write to your Congressman for alfalfa seed. Perhaps, even occasionally, bones may be discovered—relics of the pioneer days. However, this is unlikely as the chances are that nobody ever passed through your land. Think, then, of the thrill when you first set foot on it.

"The Santa Fe goes by your property—swiftly by and far away—and one of your problems will be water. May we suggest that, if you take the trip to it, you bring along your own water, for to paraphrase Coleridge: 'Water, water everywhere, but on your acre none is there.'

■

"The taxes for 1947 are all paid up and there are no strings attached except, of course, should you strike oil or gold or other minerals, then, brother, will you see strings!

"However, it is a cheerful gift. You, too, now have your place in the sun, just 2,500 miles outside New York City. In fact, you, too, have no place in the shade!

"And when you think of your land, remember that the ravages of time have wiped out what was once a Sea of Grass. At least, that is what Spencer Tracy told Katharine Hepburn."

■ ■

FROM LONDON: Dr. J. C. Wand, Anglican Bishop of London, made the Associated Press wire with the highly inconclusive observation that most young Britishers rely on Hollywood for their information about "the right relations between the sexes."

What have British parents and authorities of the Anglican Church been relying on to make certain the youngsters didn't?

■

FROM LOS ANGELES: Mrs. Eugene Meyer, whose husband publishes the *Washington Post*, continues her hatchet hunt with another attack on the industry. This time, it is a distortion that is a beaut: "The vulgarization of life conveyed by 90 per cent of the films is a handicap to the mental, moral and emotional development of American childhood."

Stunts their growth, too, we'll bet.

■ ■

About the Bronx bus driver who ended up, bus and all, in Hollywood, Fla., the other day, Joe Skeptic growls:

"Gwan, I'll bet it's a publicity stunt pulled by George Stevens on account of he's just bought Steinbeck's 'The Wayward Bus' for a movie."

Await Report from Swedish Legation

WASHINGTON, April 2.—Precise information about the extent to which U. S. film exports to Sweden will be affected following the Swedish "conciliatory note" to the State Department will not be known until the American legation there sends detailed report to the State Department here, officials have indicated. The note promised there "would be no discrimination against U. S. product."

The U. S. protested to Sweden on March 24 after that government put into effect import restrictions. The U. S. has been supplying 40 per cent of films shown in Sweden.

16 'Brunette' Winners Departing for Coast

CHICAGO, April 2.—Winners of contests held in 16 cities in connection with Paramount's "My Favorite Brunette" have converged upon this city before entraining for Hollywood tomorrow as Paramount guests. Bob Hope will act as their host during their week's stay there.

The brunettes were luncheon guests at the Blackstone Hotel today and appeared at the Balaban and Katz Chicago Theatre where the film is in its third week. Jerry Colonna came here from Hollywood to escort the girls to the Coast.

Distribute Brochure On 'Egg' Pre-selling

Highlighting an $850,000 promotional campaign for "The Egg and I," Universal-International has begun distribution of a 20-page brochure in multicolor to exhibitors throughout the nation. Covering every phase of the company's pre-selling campaign, the book includes material on Betty MacDonald's book, newspaper, radio and magazine advertising, radio and song promotions, publicity on the "Miss Slick Chick" contest, an egg industry promotion, national advertiser tie-ups, billboards and posters.

McCullough at Public Safety Conference

WASHINGTON, April 2.—John B. McCullough, acting director of the Motion Picture Association's conservation department, represented the industry at a meeting of the committee on organized public safety for President Truman's conference on fire prevention to be held here on May 6-8. The committee's next session will be on May 5.

Russia Undermining U.N., Says Johnston

PHILADELPHIA, April 2.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, last night accused Soviet Russia of being the "chief culprit in undermining the United Nations."

Speaking before the United Nations Council of Philadelphia, Johnston said that "Russia's postwar tactics raise the question whether she really wants world order or world revolution."

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New, York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 215 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



RONALD
REAGAN
ALEXIS
SMITH
ZACHARY
SCOTT

DIRECTED BY
JAMES V. KERN
NOVEL AND SCREEN PLAY BY STEPHEN LONGSTREET
PRODUCED BY
ALEX GOTTLIEB

THE STAMPEDE STARTS THIS WEEK FOR

WARNERS'

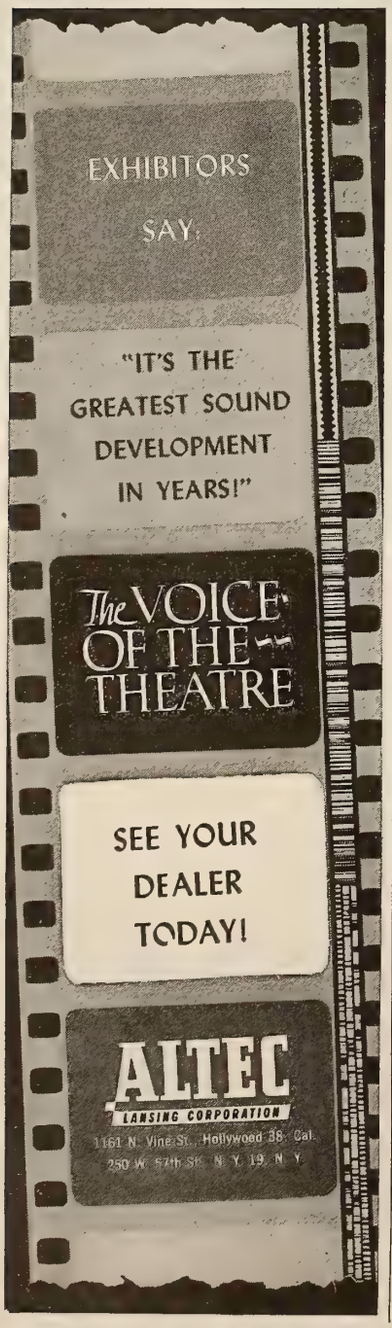
"STALLION ROAD"

Bell and Howell '46 Net Was $422,945

CHICAGO, April 2.—Bell and Howell, in its annual report to stockholders, discloses that net sales last year totaled $10,387,699, and net profit was $422,945. Though this represents an 85 per cent increase over the last prewar year of 1941, according to J. H. McNabb, president, desired production schedules were not attained during the first nine months of the year because of material and labor shortages and restrictive price ceilings. Strikes in some of the company's major suppliers' plants also restricted output.

After application of Federal tax carryovers, net earnings for the year amounted to $422,945, representing earnings of 69 cents per share on common stock outstanding, after dividends on preferred holdings.

Annual meeting of shareholders will be held at the offices of the company, here, on April 16, to elect a board of directors. Annual meeting of the new board will immediately follow.



All-Embracing Para. Decree Meet in May

Barney Balaban and other Paramount executives, including theatre head Leonard Goldenson, studio representatives and Paramount partnership representatives, will confer next month, probably on the Coast, to further discuss problems rising out of the Federal Court decree in the industry anti-trust suit, Goldenson reported here yesterday.

The meeting will be a sequel to one which was held for the same purpose in Florida last February.

WCKY Suing Union On Sudden Strike

CINCINNATI, April 2. — Charging violation of the 30-day strike notice clause of the Smith-Connally Act, radio station WCKY has filed suit in U. S. District Court for $25,000 damages from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 1224 of the Radio Broadcast Technicians' Union and 13 individuals and union officials. The station claims it was unable to meet air obligations because it was not advised in advance of a 19-hour stoppage.

RKO Closes Circuit Deal

JAFFA, March 26 (By Airmail).—Sam Stiller, manager for RKO Radio in Palestine, has closed a deal with J. Davidson, owner of the Gan Rena and Beth Haam theatres in Tel-Aviv, and co-owner of the Edison in Jerusalem, for 1946-47 product. In addition, RKO releases will play Davidson's new theatre in Haifa.

Roach Frees Classics

In an amended complaint filed in U. S. District Court here yesterday by Hal Roach, charges against Film Classics were withdrawn in a pending alleged conspiracy-to-defraud suit which Roach had originally filed against FC and Edward Peskay, former Eastern representative for Roach. Peskay remains as the only defendant.

Roach Comedies

(*Continued from page* 1)

today. Although United Artist facilities are available to him, Roach, who will fly to New York on Friday, will discuss distribution deals with other major companies before making a final decision.

Roach said that the two-part features will be sold on the same terms as major feature-length attractions, but the exhibitors will be allowed to separate them into component subjects, each about 55 minutes long. These could be used on different dates in cases where programming requirements so dictate.

Carpenters Spurn

(*Continued from page* 1)

have no strike; our men were discharged by the producers. That's the situation."

Queried as to the possibility of the subject coming up before the session closes at Carpenter Headquarters on Saturday, Hutcheson answered: "Why should we waste time on something we don't even recognize as existing? We've got more important things to talk about."

MGM Giving Away A Sea of Grass

Deeds to one acre of "Sea of Grass Land" in Valencia County, New Mexico, were presented to press representatives and others yesterday by Howard Dietz, Loew's vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity.

A letter accompanying the deeds reads in part: "The taxes for 1947 are all paid up and there are no strings attached, except, of course, should you strike oil or gold or other mineral, then, brother, will you see strings!"

Goldstein Named to MGM Publicity Post

Sidney Goldstein, formerly assistant to Jay Gove, M-G-M sales executive, has been promoted to the publicity staff of Howard Dietz, vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity. He is succeeded by George C. Maurer, with the company 11 years.

Set Crosby's Next Film

HOLLYWOOD, April 2. — Bing Crosby's next film will be "Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court," Paramount has announced. It was last filmed with the late Will Rogers. Production will start in early autumn.

Columbia - Small Deal

HOLLYWOOD, April 2.—Independent producer Edward Small will produce Dumas' "D'Artagnan" and Robert Louis Stevenson's "Black Arrow" at Columbia for release by that company.

Indiana Owners To Meet

INDIANAPOLIS, April 2.—The Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana will hold its mid-summer convention at Lake Wawasee, Indiana, June 23-25.

Republic - Ruth Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

ess. Prophesying that the prosperous era that came to the industry with sound will be repeated within the next year or two when color becomes universal, Yates said that Republic would help to fill the demand for color by the installation of equipment at both its Fort Lee and Hollywood laboratories. A majority of Republic pictures will be in Trucolor by the end of the year, he added, when new equipment will enable the company to process Trucolor as quickly as black and white.

General discussion of sales and future product, as well as of the increased production costs of "B" pictures were the subjects of the afternoon session. William Elliott, star of the company's forthcoming production, "Wyoming," addressed the afternoon meeting.

Among those present were: William Martin Saal, executive assistant to Yates, and home office executives Steve Edwards, Albert Schiller, John Petrauskas, Jr., John Alexander, John Curtin, Richard Yates, Edward Riester, and Fred Franke. Mickey Isman, assistant general manager of Empire Universal Films, Ltd., distributors of Republic product in Canada, and A. W. Perry, its president and general manager, were also at the meeting.

St. Louis on Daylight Time Following Poll

ST. LOUIS, April 2.—Postwar daylight saving time will be instituted here for a five-month period beginning April 27 as the result of a city referendum. The poll, initiated by petitions circulated by local theatres last winter, in their opposition to daylight time, was carried by about 47 per cent of the vote.

Writers' Aid Organized

The New Entertainment Workshop, an organization to aid writers in developing stories and ideas for motion pictures, plays and books, has been former near Hopewell, N. J., by Albert E. Sindlinger, former executive vice-president of Dr. George Gallup's Audience Research.

Honor Maurice Saffle

SEATTLE, April 2.—Thirty independent theatre owners from Idaho and Washington gave a surprise banquet last night in honor of Maurice Saffle, inaugurator of Saffle Theatre Service, booking agency for independent theatres in the Northwest.

'Adventuress' Cited

"The Adventuress," Eagle-Lion, which will open today at the Victoria Theatre, here, has been named "Picture of the Week" by *Life* Magazine in the issue appearing on newsstands tomorrow.

Open French Film Here

"The Bellman," French film, will open at the Studio Theatre, here, on April 5, when Mage Films takes over the West Side house under a foreign-film policy.

'U'-Int'l, Rank Pact

(*Continued from page* 1)

two equal partners in worldwide enterprises, except in Canada, in distribution, exhibition, 16mm. and other joint activities. In Canada, Rank distributes through his own company. The pact provides for the long term distribution of U-I product in Britain by Rank's General Film distributors and of Rank's product here, in Latin America and certain other areas by U-I.

In combination, the two will acquire theatres in the British Empire, on the Continent, in Latin America and here, where U-I recently acquired the New York Winter Garden and Park and Keith's, Cincinnati.

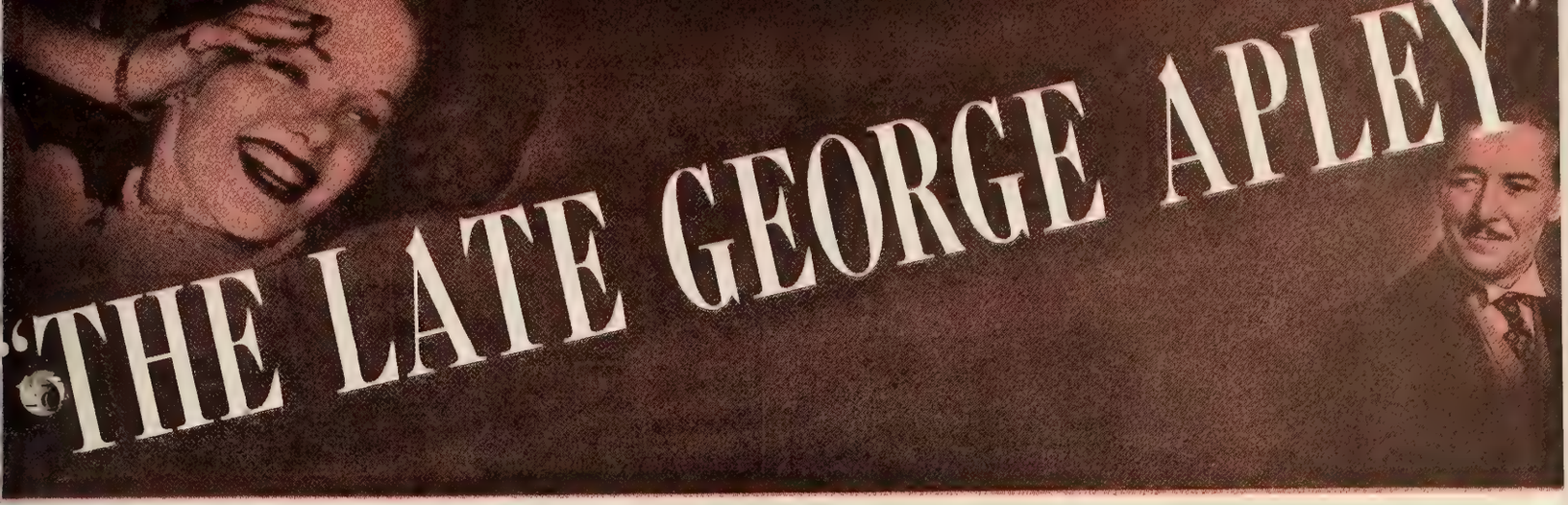
Benjamin said the contract "improves" U-I's distribution percentage of its films distributed by GFD. It makes official the committee which began operations last August and which allocates Rank's product to U-I and Eagle-Lion here; U-I getting a minimum of 12 and E-L a minimum of five annually.

The selection, he said, is from 35 to 40 British pictures, allowing for rejections of those considered unsuitable for the American market.

Under a prior deal, RKO will distribute "So Well Remembered" and a second and final Rank picture.

Another partnership deal involving 16mm. releases of Rank's and United World's is being negotiated in London now by Ian Javal for Rank and Franey for U-W, Benjamin said.

Rank is due in New York May 8 and will visit Canada and California, vacationing there for about a month, and will leave for England July 17.



2nd WEEK AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL CONTINUES TO TOP RECORD 20th CENTURY-FOX FIGURES SET BY "ANNA and the KING of SIAM" IN ITS 8 WEEK RUN!

THE WHOLE INDUSTRY IS CALLING IT "THE *Great* GEORGE APLEY!"

...FROM *Great* 20th CENTURY-FOX!

BOOMERANG! • CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA *In Technicolor*
13 RUE MADELEINE • THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR
THE HOMESTRETCH *In Technicolor*



Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"The Fabulous Dorseys," "My Favorite Brunette" and "The Locket" shared better-than-average grosses during a week of pleasant weather. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 2:

THE LOCKET (RKO Radio) and CODE OF THE WEST (RKO Radio)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. Average: $7,100)

THE LOCKET (RKO Radio) and CODE OF THE WEST (RKO Radio)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $18,200)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $18,100)

THE LOCKET (RKO Radio) and CODE OF THE WEST (RKO Radio)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,800)

BEDELIA (PRC)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,100)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio) — FOX-BEVERLY (1,350) ($1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 7 days, 14th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M) — FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $13,300)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—GUILD (965) (Advanced admission prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average at regular admission prices of 50c-$1.00: $5,900)

SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio) and MILLIE'S DAUGHTER (Col.) — HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $19,800)

SMASH-UP (U-I) and GENTLEMAN JOE PALOOKA (Mono.)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,200)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $28,600)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $22,600)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,700)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $14,200)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,400)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,700)

THE LOCKET (RKO Radio) and CODE OF THE WEST (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $18,800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PALACE (1,237) ($1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 7 days, 10th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $21,000)

SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio) and MILLIE'S DAUGHTER (Col.) — PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $20,800)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.) and RENEGADE GIRL (Screen Guild) — PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,500. (Average: $26,600)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,100)

SMASH-UP .(U-I) .and .GENTLEMAN JOE PALOOKA (Mono.)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,600)

SMASH-UP (U-I) and GENTLEMAN JOE PALOOKA (Mono.)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,100)

SMASH-UP (U-I) and GENTLEMAN JOE PALOOKA (Mono.)—UNITED ARTists (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,800)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $13,200)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—VOGUE (800) (Advanced admission prices: $1.00-$1.50-$1.80) 7 days, 13th week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000) (Average at regular admission prices of 50c-$1.00: $8,[illegible])

PURSUED (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $18,200)

PURSUED (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,500)

PURSUED (WB) — WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $14,900)

BOSTON

The approach of the holidays caused an even greater dip in box-office receipts than expected. Excellent weekend weather and very heavy retail promotion kept daytime business up at the expense of evening shows. Estimated gross receipts for the week ended April 2:

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show Phil Brito and Milt Herth Trio. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $31,000)

THE BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS (WB) and HIT PARADE OF 1947 (Rep.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,500)

SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio) and IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG (Col.)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $27,200)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.) and THE GUILTY (Mono.) — METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $24,500. (Average: $26,000)

DEAD RECKONING (Col.) and THE THIRTEENTH HOUR (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS (WB) and HIT PARADE OF 1947 (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $13,200. (Average: $14,900)

DEAD RECKONING (Col.) and THE THIRTEENTH HOUR (Col.) — STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $17,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

"The Best Years" is still running strong here, but others are generally a shade below average as a state basketball tournament drew record crowds. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 3:

LES MISERABLES (20th-Fox reissue)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,300)

TOM BROWN'S SCHOOL DAYS (RKO Radio reissue)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $3,400)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $5,600)

SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,500)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RKO PAN (1,500) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.50) third week. Gross: $20,000. (Average at regular admission prices of 50c-70c: $8,500)

LADIES' MAN (Para.)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. (Gross: $12,500) (Average: $13,000)

(Continued on following page)

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PHILADELPHIA

"The Jolson Story," now in its fifth week, is still the box-office leader as business in general suffers the usual seasonal slump. Estimated grosses for the week ending April 1-3:

BEDELIA (PRC)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $13,800)
LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week, 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,600)
[illegible]RWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—BOYD [illegible]) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $24,800. (Average: $21,000)
SEVEN WERE SAVED (Para.)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days, with vaudeville tsarring Jimmy Lunceford. Gross, 6 days: $22,800) and THE JOLSON STORY (Col.). Gross, 1 day: $4,800. (Average: $31,700)
THE BRASHER DOUBLOON (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $25,000)
SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $24,000)
THE LOCKET (RKO Radio)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,500)
DEAD RECKONING (Col.)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week, 2nd run. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,200)
MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,700. (Average: $29,500)
THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $26,900. (Average: $27,000)
THE MIGHTY McGURK (M-G-M)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $12,700)

INDIANAPOLIS

First-run houses here are waiting out the last pre-holiday week with moderate grosses. The weather is moderate. "California" and "Dead Reckoning" are the best money pictures, although both are below house average. Estimated receipts for week ended April 1-2:

SCANDAL IN PARIS (UA) and BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA) — CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)
CALIFORNIA (Para.)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,200)
SMASH-UP (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,500)
DEAD RECKONING (Col.) and SUSIE STEPS OUT (UA)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,800)
CAPTAIN CAUTION (Favorite Films) and CAPTAIN FURY (Favorite Films) — LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,700)

Extra Hall Showings

The Radio City Music Hall will open at 7:45 a.m. this Saturday and every day next week, except Sunday, to allow an extra presentation daily of its 15-year-old "Glory of Easter" stage show.

Retribution

Washington, April 2.—Apparently it is becoming unhealthy to oppose the Motion Picture Industry.

Robert Wright, who opposed the stay for the Department of Justice in the industry anti-trust hearing before Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed on Friday, went home with the flu immediately after. Philip Marcus, who took over from Wright on Monday, went home at the day's end with the flu.

Jersey Owners, Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

sored meeting of all theatre owners in the state was set for Monday morning at the Stacy-Trent Hotel in Trenton, at which a legislative lobbying program will be organized.

Federation chairman George Gold presided at yesterday's meeting, at which the following were in attendance: Edward Lachman, Lee Newbury and Edward Kelly, all of Allied of New Jersey; Morton Sunshine and L. Rosenblatt, ITOA; Frank Damis, Warners; Bud Hunt, Hunt Theatres; P. Gage, Reade Theatres; W. Phillips, Loew's; H. Meakin, RKO; Harold Blumenthal, Fabian Theatres. Gold will also preside at Trenton.

The tax-empowering bill against which the Federation is launching its attack (Assembly No. 27), was reported out of committee last week and is expected to come up for a vote on the Assembly floor shortly. The bill would permit localities to levy a two-cent tax on admissions between 13 cents and 50 cents, and a three-cent tax on admissions between 51 cents and $1.00.

20th Sales Policy

(*Continued from page* 1)

order. That is expected tomorrow.

Connors indicated that the company would deliberate carefully on moves to be made in connection with competitive bidding, a policy it has embraced in a number of areas since the decree was handed down.

"Between now and the time the appeal of the case is heard by the Supreme Court we want our conduct to be such that we get the most favorable reaction from the Supreme Court," he said. "We want," he added, "to keep faith with the Government, to keep faith with our customers, and to avoid any further legal difficulties within the industry."

Agree on Stay

(*Continued from page* 1)

attend a meeting here yesterday where the stay order was approved. Counsel for the other seven companies thereupon agreed to dispatch the order to the upper court and Robert L. Wright, assistant U. S. Attorney General, leaving 20th-Fox to choose an independent course.

Several Exceptions

Only the New York court's injunction against franchise deals with exhibitors is not among the various distribution provisions of the decree contained in the stay order. The restraints upon theatre operations by Loew's, Paramount, RKO Radio, Warners and 20th-Fox also are not affected by the order.

These include pooling arrangements, the ownership of between five and 95 per cent interests in a theatre, theatre expansion, and operating, buying and booking features through an agent known to be acting in such manner for any other exhibitor.

Film attorneys here for the most part regard Justice Reed's approval of the order as a foregone conclusion. At the hearing in Washington last Friday, Justice Reed said he was "sympathetic" to the stay applications.

Practices Affected

The order would defer operation of the decree's injunctions against these practices until after the Supreme Court's determination of appeals:

Section 2: paragraph 1, theatre admission price fixing; paragraph 2, agreements on systems of clearances; paragraph 3, clearance between theatres not in substantial competition; paragraph 4; clearance against theatres in substantial competition with the theatre receiving the license for exhibition in excess of what is reasonably necessary to protect the licensee in the run granted; paragraph 6 (5 deals with franchises), formula deals and master agreements; paragraph 7, licensing of one picture conditioned on the licensing of another and no cancellation right although pictures are not trade shown before licensed; paragraph 8, competitive bidding; paragraph 9, arbitrary refusal of a request for a run.

Section 3 (this covering the theatre-owning defendants): paragraph 1, agreements referred to in paragraph 6 of Section 2 (formula deals and master agreements).

Section 5: the motion picture arbitration system.

15-Day Stay Given

(*Continued from page* 1)

underway. Defendants are the distributors. In addition, in Minneapolis, Minnesota Amusement Co. is also listed as a defendant.

Riverside and Middle States joined in asking $1,750,000 damages allegedly lost during the operation of Riverside in Milwaukee. In Minneapolis, Middle States along asks judgment of $900,000 for loses allegedly suffered while operating the Minnesota Theatre there.

Two suits were filed Jan. 20 by John Mulder and Abraham Brussell, Chicago attorneys. Judge Michael L. Igoe was assigned the Minnesota Theatre case, and Judge Philip L. Sullivan was assigned the Riverside case.



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MPTOA Hits Ascap's Move To Boost Tax

'No Justification for Increase,' Levy Says

Opening gun in an exhibitor attack on the proposal of the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers for an increase in its music tax rates for theatres was fired yesterday by Herman Levy, general counsel of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America.

Indications are that exhibitor resistance to the Ascap overture is building rapidly and will break into the open immediately that Ascap makes known its proposals for new rates.

Levy, in New York yesterday following a California trip, stated that there is no "justification for higher music taxes apparent to any exhibitor."

Theatre operating costs are up, film costs are higher, and every exhibitor

(*Continued on page 7*)

400 Theatres Set For 'Years': Mulvey

The tenancy of 400 theatres by Samuel Goldwyn Productions for "The Best Years of Our Lives" will be accomplished in five to six weeks, James Mulvey, president of the company, said here yesterday.

Goldwyn's plan to sub-lease theatres for advanced admission exhibition of the picture was made known some time ago. In most instances the entire staff of a house is retained but operation in effect is by Goldwyn.

New Loew Loan Is Partly for Theatres

Motive for Loew's $15,000,000 of recent borrowings was explained here yesterday by Charles C. Moskowitz, vice-president and treasurer, who said the company has no immediate need for new financing but negotiated the deals for possible future requirements, these not excluding increases in theatre holdings.

The low interest rates, $6,000,000 at two per cent for eight years, and $9,-

(*Continued on page 6*)

MPA to Ask Truman To Anniversary Fete

Washington, April 3.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, will head a group of industry representatives going to the White House next week to invite President Truman to the 25th anniversary dinner in New York, May 8, of the MPA and its predecessor, the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America.

CPA Bars Universal From N. Y. Offices

The Universal-International home office faces a postponement of its May 1 date with the movers.

With the new Universal Building at Park Avenue and 57th Street 90 per cent completed and U-I's present six floors of home office space in the RCA Building already rented to new tenants by Rockefeller Center, the Civilian Production Administration has issued an order forbidding completion of interior partition work in the building under construction.

The CPA's order is being protested and, meanwhile, the agency faces inactivation because of curtailment of its budget and functions by Congress.

Because of the delay, however, U-I's moving plans may be postponed as much as a month or more. Rockefeller Center has agreed to permit the company to remain in its present quarters until the new offices are available.

Grainger Discusses Product at Meeting

Plans for covering the release and promotion of forthcoming Republic productions were discussed here yesterday by James R. Grainger, executive vice-president in charge of sales and distribution, at the second and closing session of the first of Republic's current series of regional sales meetings, which was held at the New York Athletic Club.

Grainger highlighted the Easter week opening of the Frank Borzage production, "That's My Man," at the Globe Theatre in New York; the forthcoming Nelson Eddy-Ilona Massey production, "End of the Rainbow," and the next Roy Rogers outdoor musical, in Trucolor, "Bells of Rosarita."

Company president Herbert J. Yates; his executive assistant William Martin Saal; Edward L. Walton, as-

(*Continued on page 6*)

3 More Cases To Arbitration

Filings of arbitration cases continues at an accelerated pace, with three new ones filed with the Cleveland tribunal of the industry's arbitration system. Additionally, the appeal board in New York has handed down an award modifying the Boston board's ruling in a clearance complaint initiated by Latchis Theatres of Keene, Inc., Nashua, N. H., and appealed by the intervenors, the Colonial Theatres Co. and State Operating Co., of Nashua and Manchester, respectively.

Seeking reestablishment of a 30-day clearance for their theatres in Nashua and Manchester over the Latchis in Milford, the intervenors were joined by the distributor-defendants, 20th Century-Fox, M-G-M, Paramount and Warner Brothers, in

(*Continued on page 3*)

Lightstone Heads Canadian MPDA

TORONTO, April 3.—Gordon Lightstone, general manager of Paramount in Canada, was elected president of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association at the annual meeting of the organization in Toronto. He succeeds Leo M. Devaney, Canadian district manager of RKO Radio, who held the office for almost two years. Dave Griesdorf, general sales manager of Producers Releasing, was elected vice-president.

The new board of directors includes: Louis Rosenfeld, Columbia; O. R. Hanson, Monogram; H. L. Nathanson, Regal Films (which handles M-G-M product); Sidney Samson, 20th Century-Fox; C. S. Chaplin, United Artists; A. W. Perry, Empire-Universal; H. M. Masters, Warners; L. M. Devaney, RKO Radio, and the president and vice-president. E. H. Wells continues as secretary.

Status Quo for E-L On Product Sales

Eagle-Lion, anticipating the handing down by U. S. Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed in Washington of an official order staying competitive bidding and other provisions of the Federal Court's decree in the industry anti-trust case, has resolved to continue its customary policy of selling

(*Continued on page 6*)

20th-Fox Asks Stay of Bids, Arbitration

Files Separate Order; Further Delay Likely

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Twentieth Century-Fox today filed with the U. S. Supreme Court a draft of an order postponing only the competitive bidding and arbitration provision of the New York Federal Court's equity decree, thus taking a course entirely independent of the other seven distributor-defendants who have proposed stays of all distribution injunctions contained in the decree, with the exception of that dealing with franchises.

The company has been at odds on the context of the stay order draft with its co-defendants since last Friday when at a hearing here U. S. Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed indicated he would sign a joint order submitted to him by the companies.

Further delay of action by U. S.

(*Continued on page 3*)

Wright to Address NCA Meet Apr. 21

MINNEAPOLIS, April 3.—Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, and chief prosecutor in the Government's film industry anti-trust suit, will headline the program at North Central Allied's annual convention in Minneapolis on April 21-22, it was announced by NCA president Ben Berger.

Stanley Kane, executive counsel of the independent exhibitor association,

(*Continued on page 6*)

Court Upholds City On 'Outlaw' Action

New York Supreme Court Justice Bernard Shientag yesterday sustained the right of the New York City license commissioner and police commissioner to threaten revocation of a theatre's license and prosecution of an exhibitor to prevent the showing of an indecent picture.

Ruling specifically on Howard Hughes' motion to restrain the city

(*Continued on page 7*)

Personal Mention

GRADWELL L. SEARS, United Artists vice-president in charge of distribution, is scheduled to leave for London within the next week.

•

ALISON HOLMAN, daughter of RUSSELL HOLMAN, Eastern production manager of Paramount, and EDGAR ALVON FITTER, JR., will be married in Old Greenwich, Conn., on Sunday. It was erroneously reported yesterday that they were married on Wednesday.

•

JOSEPH BAMBERGER, director: ROBERT TAYLOR and his wife, BARBARA STANWYCK, and ANTHONY COLLINS, musical director for HERBERT WILCOX, are on the *S. S. America* scheduled to arrive here today.

•

S. E. PIERPONT, Paramount International district manager in South America, and A. L. PRATCHETT, Latin America division manager, are due in New York shortly.

•

EDWIN W. AARON, assistant general sales manager for M-G-M in charge of short subject sales, will return to New York from Miami on Monday.

•

WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal-International vice-president and general sales manager, is due to return to New York from the Coast next week.

•

T. NEWMAN LAWLER, film attorney, has returned here from North Carolina.

•

NATHAN LEVINSON, head of the Warner sound department, is here from the Coast.

Balaban to Cleveland, Detroit for UJA

Barney Balaban, national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, will address industry leaders and others at a dinner-meeting in Cleveland next Tuesday. The next night he will attend a UJA meeting at the Detroit Variety Club. The visits are two in a series Balaban is making to principal centers to organize local motion picture support of the UJA drive. He will be accompanied by Lou Novins and Sam Shain.

Members of the Cleveland campaign organizing committee are: Meyer Fine, William Skirball, Jack Shulman, Henry Greenberger, M. B. Horwitz and Nat Wolf. Members of the Detroit committee are: Arvid Kantor, Arthur Robinson, Alex Schreiber and Lew Whisper.

Goldwyn Named in L.A.

LOS ANGELES, April 3.—Samuel Goldwyn has accepted the presidency of the United Jewish Appeal drive for the Los Angeles area and will head a campaign to raise $8,500,000 in the territory. Dore Schary was named chairman, and Abe Lastfogel co-chairman, of the film industry division, which has a $2,000,000 quota.

Power Restrictions Lifted in Ontario

Toronto, April 3.—The Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission has lifted restrictions on the use of electric power which have been in effect since December throughout most of Ontario. Theatres may now have full illumination for outdoor display and theatre fronts. Under the limition, exhibitors had conserved electricity because of a power shortage by observing a blackout of signs and marquees until eight P.M.

Liberty Multi-Deal Distribution Pends

HOLLYWOOD, April 3. — Liberty Films may make distribution deals with various companies, similar to the recently-announced arrangement under which Frank Capra will produce and direct "State of the Union" for M-G-M release, vice-president Samuel Briskin discloses.

Paramount is among the companies which have offered proposals, Briskin said, although deals have been completed with none so far. The original Liberty deal with RKO Radio, which called for four pictures, still stands, according to Briskin, but contains provision for amendment at Liberty's discretion.

Wallis Group Due in N. Y. on Way Abroad

Lewis Allen, who will direct "For Her to See" in England, is expected here tomorrow from the Coast to join Hal Wallis when he sails for Britain next Wednesday. Jack Saper, assistant to Wallis, who is also en route from the Coast, will accompany Allen, Wallis and Joseph Hazen, president of Wallis-Hazen Productions. They are scheduled to return to this country at the end of August.

Production of "For Her to See," to star Ray Milland and Ann Todd, is slated to get under way at the Denham Studios in England on May 12.

Iowa, Nebr. Owners Will Meet May 5 - 6

OMAHA, April 3.—The Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska will hold a major meeting here May 5 and 6, president Howard E. Brooking announces.

During the past week the association has held regional meetings at Red Oak, Ia., with Oky Goodman, Villisca (Ia.) exhibitor, chairman, and at Harlan, Ia., with Brookings as chairman. Charles Niles of Anamosa, Ia., discussed the Allied Caravan in the two states.

20th-Fox Bowlers Win

Three straight is the score rolled up by the 20th Century-Fox home office men's team against bowlers of Century Theatre Circuit, here.

PRC to Release 4 Brandt-Mayer Films

HOLLYWOOD, April 3.—Producers Releasing will release four pictures to be produced by Marathon Pictures, newly-organized independent company headed by Jerry Brandt and Arthur L. Mayer, Harry H. Thomas, PRC head, announced here today. Mayer is managing director of the Rialto Theatre in New York.

With production of its first film expected to begin early this summer, Marathon Pictures is headed here by Frank Satinstein, who will serve as production chief. Peter Mayer will handle directorial chores, while Max Wilk will head the story department. Robert Joseph is to be associate producer.

'Carnegie Hall' at Two 1st-Runs Here

"Carnegie Hall," produced by Federal Films, will run in two New York theatres simultaneously, beginning May 2, the houses being the Park Avenue and Winter Garden, both of which will hold charity performances on the preceding evening.

The Park Avenue run will be on a two-a-day basis on a fixed price structure of $1.80 for matinees and $2.40 in the evening at all times. The Winter Garden scale is yet to be determined, but prices will be popular and the policy a "grind." Proceeds on the evening of May 1 at the Winter Garden will go to the Foundling Home. The charity beneficiary on the same evening at the Park Avenue is not yet finalized, although an arrangement is under way.

Rhoden's Son to Buy For Commonwealth

KANSAS CITY, April 3.—Elmer Carl Rhoden, son of Elmer Rhoden, head of Fox Midwest Theatres, has been named assistant film buyer of Commonwealth Theatres, here, by C. A. Schultz, president.

Rhoden was manager of Commonwealth's Star Theatre at Warrensburg before going into the Armed Forces. During the past nine months he has been making an inventory of the circuit's properties. Robert E. Shelton is film buyer for Commonwealth.

Entertainment Plans Set for Variety Meet

LOS ANGELES, April 3.—Plans are underway for the entertainment of more than 700 delegates and their wives at the Variety Clubs International 11th annual convention here May 13-17. George Bowser, chairman of the entertainment committee, has completed arrangements to take over Earl Carrol's night club on May 15, as well as having the ladies attend Ken Murray's "Blackouts of 1947" on the 17th, while the men attend a closing banquet at the Ambassador Hotel that evening.

Presentation of the "Humanitarian Award" will be made at the convention.

Irish Odeon Offers $1,600,000 Issue

DUBLIN, April 3.—Odeon of Ireland, Ltd., new J. Arthur Rank company operating Rank theatres in Eire, including Dublin first-runs, has offered the Irish public $1,600,000 of four per cent first debentures.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
RONALD COLMAN in
'THE LATE GEORGE APLEY'
Introducing PEGGY CUMMINS
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
THE MUSIC HALL'S
GREAT EASTER STAGE SHOW

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
Laraine DAY · Brian AHERNE
Robert MITCHUM-Gene RAYMOND
'THE LOCKET' AN RKO RADIO PICTURE

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY at 45
ON SCREEN
1st B'way Showing!
WALLACE BEERY
'The MIGHTY McGURK'
IN PERSON
MICKEY ROONEY
LOUIS BASIL & LOEW'S STATESMEN
plus OTHERS

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTEN · ETHEL BARRYMORE
in "The Farmer's Daughter"
An RKO Radio Picture
A DORE SCHARY Production
RIVOLI
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.
B'way at 49th St.

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

BOB HOPE
DOROTHY LAMOUR
in PARAMOUNT'S
"My Favorite Brunette"
with PETER LORRE
LON CHANEY
in Person!
JIMMY DORSEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PAT HENNING · LYN SHIRLEY
LOUIS JORDAN AND HIS TYMPANY FIVE
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

DICK HAYMES - VERA ELLEN
CESAR ROMERO - CELESTE HOLM
CARNIVAL in COSTA RICA
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
— PLUS ON STAGE —
CONNEE BOSWELL - BUSTER SHAVER
PETERS SISTERS - Extra! JACKIE MILES
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Studios Expected High Actor Demands

HOLLYWOOD, April 3.—Today, studio executives for the most part were viewing as within normal expectancy advance reports that the Screen Actors Guild will ask in contract negotiation beginning April 15 that the studios pay film bit players, hired by the day, $100 a day, and players employed by the week, $350 per week. The SAG board of directors has mailed to members copies of contract proposals to be presented to the producers during pending negotiations.

Regarded as the most important among minimum wage increases asked is that asked for day players. Actors in higher categories already receive, in a great majority of cases, sums in excess of the new minimum rates asked.

However, what is held here to be more important fundamentally then the price changes sought, according to studio sources, are SAG's proposals for paying actors additional amounts for having worked in pictures which are televised or reissued. Both of these proposals are said to open far-reaching possibilities which, it is generally agreed, would have to be explored thoroughly before any employment pact covering these points could be entered into.

13-Week Sales Drive On Warner Product

Warner Brothers will hold a 13-week sales drive, April 27-July 26, it was announced here yesterday by Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager.

The company's Canadian exchanges, which were prevented from joining U. S. branches in sales drives held during the last several years because of Dominion wartime restrictions, again will be part of the competition this year.

A series of regional meetings in connection with the drive will be conducted by division sales managers Roy Haines, for the Western territory; Jules Lapidus, Eastern, and Norman Ayers, Southern. The first of these sessions took place yesterday in Pittsburgh, with Lapidus presiding. The next is scheduled for April 9 in Boston.

Name Dietz to Board Of 'Junior Republic'

Howard Dietz, M-G-M vice-president in charge of publicity and advertising, has been elected a member of the board of directors of the George Junior Republic Association, Donald S. Stralem, board chairman, has announced. Others elected were Orie R. Kelly, Joseph P. Day, Maxwell L. Scott and James P. McAllister.

Fairbanks Has New Lens

Jerry Fairbanks of Jerry Fairbanks Productions, Hollywood, will arrive in New York on Monday to show his new Zoomar Lens to television producers and to the press. The Zoomar, it is said, replaces the three-lens turret on television cameras and eliminates "dollying." The company's New York office is run by Jack Pegler.

Boren Flying Here For Strike Talks

Hollywood, April 3. — The possibility that a strike settlement may be worked out in the East appeared tonight when it was disclosed that Charles S. Boren, recently appointed by Eric Johnston as producer labor executive, will fly to New York on Saturday, accompanied by several members of the Producers' Committee, for meetings with company presidents on the Hollywood strike situation. The decision to fly followed a late afternoon meeting of studio executives.

Mrs. Meyer, Your Post Is Showing

Mrs. Eugene Meyer's broadside criticism of radio and films was condemned yesterday at the close of the two-day session of the program executive committee of the National Association of Broadcasters here.

In a speech given in Los Angeles on Tuesday, Mrs. Meyer, wife of the publisher of the Washington, D. C., *Post*, said that radio and film techniques are being used for a "progressive vulgarization of the public mind and for the debasing of public morals."

"Any sincere critic," the NAB committee said, "should practice standards and good taste at least as high as the standards of which he complains."

The committee pointed out that on the day when Mrs. Meyer delivered her speech, the Washington *Post* carried a syndicated column which gave intimate advice to a middle-aged couple. No radio station in the country, the committee said, would broadcast such material.

SkourasShowmanship Campaign Launched

PORTLAND, Ore., April 3.—The fifth annual Charles P. Skouras showmanship campaign was launched at a conference here at which Portland and Seattle district representatives heard plans outlined by Skouras.

Attending were: H. C. Cox, George Bowser, John Berters, E. F. Zabel, Thomas E. Page, A. J. Krappman, William Lyres and Irving Epsteen.

Jack Warner Cited

HOLLYWOOD, April 3.—For aid extended by the Warner studio in fulfillment of the recent recruiting program, Jack L. Warner yesterday received a citation signed by General A. A. Vandergrift, Marine Corps Commandant, and by Brig. Gen. W. E. Reilly, director of recruiting.

The citation is described as being the only honor of its kind to be conferred on a film company by the Marine Corps.

Honor Samuelson May 5

PHILADELPHIA, April 3.—A testimonial will be given Sidney E. Samuelson, general manager of Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania, by area exhibitors and film men at the Warwick Hotel here, on May 5. Jack Greenberg is chairman of the affair.

Skouras Cuts Shares In 20th-Fox by Gift

PHILADELPHIA, April 3.—Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox Film Corp., gave gifts of 42,000 shares of the common stock in January, reducing his holdings to 5,250 shares, a Securities and Exchange Commission report disclosed today.

The summary covered the period from Feb. 11 to March 10, but Skouras' gift was reported too late to be included in the January summary, an SEC official said.

Skouras revealed he had acquired the 42,000 shares in August, 1946, by exercising an option.

Large film stock acquisitions included purchase by Ned E. Depinet and N. Peter Rathvon of 20,000 shares each of Radio-Keith-Orpheum common, making holdings 26,000 and 25,000 shares, respectively, and the acquisition of 4,000 shares of Warners common stock by Harry M. Warner.

Army Charges Delay In Release of Film

WASHINGTON, April 3.—War Department officials here are growing impatient over what they claim to be film industry delay in approving general release of the Army's "Seeds of Destiny" film, a spokesman for the War Department indicated today.

The spokesman said he will press early next week for an answer from the industry's coordinating committee regarding consideration of the film. He stated that the Army has been getting about a dozen requests daily for the picture from exhibitors and civic groups.

Fabian to Report on "Destiny" Film Today

Si Fabian, chairman of the film coordinating committee, whose duty it is to facilitate the handling of Government films, if approved, said here yesterday he will have a statement on the "Destiny" matter today.

20th-Fox Asks

(*Continued from page* 1)

Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed on the stay orders seems likely, as the Justice Department lawyers indicated today that they would be unable to comment on the defense attorneys' proposed order until early next week.

Robert Wright, who has been handling the case for the Justice Department is ill at his home and does not plan to draw up his comments on the order until he returns to work on Monday. Wright said today, however, that the Department would oppose the proposed order as it is a "little too broad and goes further than it should."

One specific objection on the part of Justice is to a stay of the provision covering master agreements.

The proposed order for the seven companies in agreement and the stay order for 20th Century-Fox have both been received. Earlier today it was indicated that Justice Department lawyers might ask for another hearing before Justice Reed, but the Department attorneys agreed to submit their objections to the proposed orders in a letter to Justice Reed.

Ampa Elects Stoltz, Williams and Stein

Arnold Stoltz yesterday was elected president of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, as expected, at a closed meeting of the organization held at the Town Hall Club, here, as the entire slate of the AMPA nominating committee was swept into office. Others elected were: Phil Williams, vice-president, for a second successive term; Max Stein, treasurer; Marguerite Wayburn, secretary, succeeding Stein.

Rutgers Neilson, retiring president, was elected a member of the board, as were Joel Swenson, Harry McWilliams, Hap Hadley and Don Velde. Elected trustees were Ray Gallagher, Charles Alicoate and Jacques Kopfstein. All officers will be installed at the 30th anniversary AMPA dinner-dance on April 23, at the Hotel Astor, here.

Kushner Adds Vaudeville

INDIANAPOLIS, April 3. — Oscar Kushner's Hollywood Theatre has been added to the growing list of neighborhood houses here which are offering a stage show one night a week.

3 More Cases

(*Continued from page* 1)

the appeal. Only RKO Radio did not appeal.

The appeal board, in granting the complainant availability of 60 days after territorial release, set seven days as a maximum clearance for Colonial Theatres' Tremont, State and Colonial, the latter when playing first-run, over the Latchis. No clearance shall be granted to the Strand, State and, when playing first run, to the Crown and Palace in Manchester, except on pictures not shown in the Nashua houses, the board added, ruling that in the latter event seven days' clearance may be granted.

Emerson A. Gibbs, operating the Andover Theatre in Andover, O., in a clearance complaint against the five aforementioned film companies, seeks elimination of what he terms "unreasonable" clearance of 28 and 30 days favoring Shea's Palace and Bula theatres in Ashtabula, O.

Naming all first-run theatres in Akron, including the Loew's, Colonial, Warners' Strand and Palace as interested parties, Wadsworth Amusement Co. seeks specific clearance of 14 days after Akron or 30 days after territorial release in place of the 14 days after first-run in Akron to which the Strand and Star theatres in Wadsworth, O., are subject. The five major companies are listed as defendants.

In the third Cleveland complaint, Tri-Theatres, Inc., operating the Morrison, Columbia and Mount Union Theatre in Alliance, O., claims that the seven-day clearance in favor of first run downtown theatres in Canton is unreasonable as to time and area. Tri-Theatres asks for an order directing Paramount, Warners, 20th-Fox and RKO Radio to make product available to its houses when and as product is released in the Cleveland district. The Palace, Loew's and Ohio theatres are named as interested parties.

C'mon and Hear!



RADIO'S GREATEST PRO



Irving Berlin's Alexander's R

BING CROSBY SHOW
APRIL 9 · ABC · 10 P. M. E. S. T.
WEST COAST BROADCAST 9 P. M. P. S. T.

CONTENTED PROGRAM
APRIL 7 · NBC · 10:00 P. M. E. S. T.

DUFFY'S TAVERN Starring **IRVING BERLIN**
APRIL 9 · NBC · 9 P. M. E. S. T.

KRAFT MUSIC HALL
APRIL 10 · NBC · 9:00 P. M. E. S. T.

FRED ALLEN
APRIL 13 · NBC · 8:30 P. M. E. S. T.

JACK SMITH SHOW
APRIL 2 · CBS · 7:15 P. M. E. S. T.

KATE SMITH SINGS
APRIL 13 · CBS · 6:30 P. M. E. S. T.

HOUR OF CHARM
APRIL 13 · CBS · 4:30 P. M. E. S. T.

Irving Berlin's "ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND" Starring TYRONE POWER · ALICE FAYE · DON AMECHE · ETHEL MERMAN and Jack Haley · Jean Hersholt · Helen Westley · John Carradine · Darryl F. Zanuck In Charge of Production Directed by Henry King · Screen Play by Kathryn Scola and Lamar Trotti · Adaptation by Richard Sherman · Lyrics and Music by Irving Berlin · Dances Staged by Seymour Felix · Associate Producer Harry Joe Brown



RAMS SALUTE

agtime Band

LUX RADIO THEATRE
Starring
TYRONE POWER • AL JOLSON • DICK HAYMES
DINAH SHORE • MARGARET WHITING
APRIL 7 • CBS • 9 P. M. E. S. T.

BOB HOPE SHOW
Starring AL JOLSON
APRIL 8 • NBC • 10 P. M. E. S. T.

JAN AUGUST PROGRAM
APRIL 5 • MUTUAL • 5:45 P. M. E. S. T.

EDDIE CANTOR SHOW
Starring DENNIS DAY
APRIL 10 • NBC • 10:30 P. M. E. S. T.

HERE'S TO YOU
APRIL 6 • CBS • 2:30 P. M. E. S. T.

VICTOR BORGE-BENNY GOODMAN
Starring IRVING BERLIN
APRIL 14 • NBC • 9:30 P. M. E. S. T.

PAUL WHITEMAN
APRIL 9 • ABC • 9:00 P. M. E. S. T.

SHEAFFER PARADE
Starring CARMEN CAVALLARO
APRIL 6 • NBC • 3:00 P. M. E. S. T.

CLIFF EDWARDS
APRIL 8 • ABC • 4:30 P. M. E. S. T.

PRUDENTIAL FAMILY HOUR
APRIL 20 • CBS • 5:00 P. M. E. S. T.

TONY MARTIN SHOW
APRIL 20 • CBS • 9:30 P. M. E. S. T.

Get on the Bandwagon at your 20th CENTURY-FOX *Exchange!*



Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

BUFFALO

Except for showings made by "My Favorite Brunette," at the Great Lakes, and "The Best Years of Our Lives," at the Century, grosses here this week held to a seasonal low. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 5:

THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM (20th-Fox) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $19,000)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $18,000)

PURSUED (WB)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000)

MICHIGAN KID (U-I) and BLIND SPOT (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $15,000)

BOOMERANG (20th-Fox)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $5,700. (Average: $6,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.50) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average at regular admission prices of 40c-50c-60c-70c: $16,000)

SALT LAKE CITY

Attendance was good in all first-runs here, with hold-overs and new pictures vieing for honors. The weather has been agreeable. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 3:

SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I) — CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, second week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,800)

CALIFORNIA (Para.) — CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,600)

TRAIL TO SAN ANTONE (Rep.) and SECRET OF THE WHISTLER (Col.)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days with vaudeville. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,700)

BOOMERANG (20th-Fox)—RIALTO (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $5,900)

THE LOCKET (RKO Radio)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $4,800)

LOVE LAUGHS AT ANDY HARDY (M-G-M)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $5,900)

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $12,300)

CLEVELAND

Weekend attendance downtown was good. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 1-2:

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.) — LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,000)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M) — LOEW'S STATE — (3,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $23,800)

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $11,000)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE LOCKET (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $21,400)

THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB) — WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $22,600)

NORA PRENTISS (WB) — WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $3,650)

World Release Slated For Canadian Film

LONDON, April 3.—The J. Arthur Rank Organization will distribute, worldwide, the first major bilingual English-French Canadian feature, "Whispering City," produced by Quebec Productions, and also plans widespread development of Canadian production. The French version of "Whispering City" is regarded as unique in that its cast is made up entirely of Canadians.

Kodak Video Film

Eastman Kodak, in conjunction with American Broadcasting and Philco, will demonstrate a new film process for television, particularly as it affects special events coverage, in Philadelphia on April 10.

Status Quo for E-L

(*Continued from page* 1)

pictures singly and non-competitively, it developed yesterday following a press interview conducted here by E-L president Arthur Krim, who recently returned from Britain.

Unless a stay order, momentarily expected, is not forthcoming, the law firm of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim, which had been studying the possible applications of the decree on the company's operations, will discontinue such study for the time being.

E-L, which, according to vice-president and general sales manager Alfred W. Schwalberg, has not once received an exhibitor request to bid on its product, has been selling pictures singly because the young company at no time has developed a sufficient product back-log to permit selling in blocks. Its current back-log consists of three domestic productions and three British; it now has five films in distribution.

With E-L geared to handle about 20 top pictures annually, including 10 of its own productions, and between five and 10 from the J. Arthur Rank Organization, Krim disclosed at the interview that the company is planning expansion southward, in Mexico and South America, beginning in July.

Reporting on his recent conferences with Rank executives in England and Gaumont officials in Paris, the head of the Rank subsidiary in the U. S. said that provisions for a continuous exchange of product and other facilities were mapped out. While the 10-year agreement between Rank and E-L sets a minimum of five of the former's productions to be distributed by the latter each year, Krim explained that this was expandable. In fact, he continued, E-L will distribute seven Rank pictures this year.

Gaumont, the Paris partner of Rank, largest company in production, exhibition and distribution in France, according to Krim, will distribute E-L productions in France, North Africa, Switzerland and Belgium, while in the British Empire, exhibition is assured E-L pictures in either the Gaumont or Odeon circuits, which are Rank-controlled. General Film Distributors, or Eagle-Lion Distributors, Ltd., will handle E-L films in the British Isles and in the Eastern Hemisphere, respectively.

Krim will leave for Hollywood on Tuesday for conferences with Bryan Foy, production chief, on forthcoming product, and expects to return to New York to resume discussions with Rank when the British financier arrives here in May.

Czechs Plan 27 Films, 73 Shorts This Year

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The 1947 production schedule for the Czechoslovakian film industry calls for 27 features and 73 shorts, cartoons and miscellaneous films, the U. S. Commerce Department reports. From January through November, the department says, 10 Czech features and 213 others were released. During the same period 27 Soviet, 20 American, 46 British, and 26 French features were released there.

Vaughan Named Manager

SEATTLE, April 3. — Ed Vaughan has been appointed manager of the Palomar Theatre, replacing Jack McCallum who resigned after several weeks in the post.

Grainger Discusses

(*Continued from page* 1)

sistant general sales manager and Western division manager; Walter L. Titus, Jr., Southern division manager; James V. O'Gara, Eastern division manager, will leave Monday for Chicago, where the second sales conference will be held at the Hotel Blackstone on Tuesday and Wednesday. This meeting will be attended by Southern district managers and branch managers in the Southern, Southwestern, Prairie and Midwestern districts. Carl Ponedel, Mexico branch manager, will also be present.

The third and final meeting will be held during the week of April 14 at the company's Hollywood studios, and will cover the Western district.

Wright to Address

(*Continued from page* 1)

said Wendell Berge, head of the anti-trust division of the Department of Justice, has approved Wright's appearance at the unit's convention but that he would not be permitted to specifically discuss the New York anti-trust suit, "in view of the pendancy of the case in court," but said Wright will participate in an "extensive and informal discussion of the case and our motion picture program. . . ."

Wright is scheduled to address NCA delegates at the noon luncheon, as well as during an open forum in the afternoon of April 21.

Berger and Kane said they did not expect the new turn in events which stays competitive bidding and other provisions of the industry decree to alter the plans of Wright to address the convention.

New Loew Loan

(*Continued from page* 1)

000,000 in 2.85 per cent debentures, due in 1965, prompted the borrowing at this time, he indicated.

Moskowitz said the expenditures he anticipates are of a general corporate nature, and agreed when it was suggested that in some instances the money would be used to increase partial holdings in theatres to the required 95 per cent under the terms of the New York Federal Court's anti-trust decision of Dec. 31, 1946.

Loew's recently purchased E. V. Richards' one-third interest in the State, New Orleans first-run, giving the company 100 per cent ownership.

KMTA Meets Hit Crime Film Fare

ST. LOUIS, April 3.—Current prevalence of murder mysteries in film fare are signals to parents to keep their children away from theatres, exhibitors who attended the five regional meetings of the Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association, just concluded in this territory, believe.

The subject was under discussion at all five meetings, particularly with its possible relation to problems of juvenile delinquency.

The meetings also revealed exhibitor resistance to competitive bidding in this area. A majority said they would refrain from engaging in bidding for as long as possible.

Although no legislation affecting the industry is before the Kansas legislature, a five per cent admission tax measure and one requiring uniformed firemen in theatres are pending in Missouri. The association has approved a bill for a new theatre seating and building code.

Huge Film Project Planned in Belgium

BRUSSELS, March 31 (By Airmail).—Plans are in process here for a hugh "Belgium Hollywood." Robert Demets, administrator of Studios Cinematografiques Reunis, has announced the organization's purchase of 300 acres at Howardries, where a film studio will be constructed containing seven stages.

Domets believes that in 1948 some 30 to 40 features will be produced at Howardries.

Stagehands Sue Unions

ST. LOUIS, April 3.—Stagehands Henry H. Klaverkamp and Ralph W. Baur have filed suit in Federal Court for $109,750 in damages against 15 officers of the IATSE.

They charge that they were compelled to pay 15 per cent of their earnings to get work from 1935 to 1943, in violation of a union by-law limiting dues to five per cent of earnings. The overcharge is blamed on officers of Local No. 6.

E-L Enlarges Space

The entire 15th floor of the Bond Building here has been taken over by Eagle-Lion Films to give the company augmented space. Heading the move are Eagle-Lion's president, Arthur B. Krim, vice-president and sales manager Alfred W. Schwalberg, and advertising-publicity director Max E. Youngstein, together with their staffs.

Bar Sunday Advance

MONTPELIER, VT., April 3.—A defeat has been dealt a bill which would have permitted earlier film showings on Sunday. Mobilizing behind Rep. Cornelius Granai, the House turned back a bill which would have allowed films after two P.M., instead of six, as at present.

CRI Enters Third Year

Confidential Reports, Inc., home office employees here tendered a get-together this week in honor of Isador Lubin, president, and Jack H. Levin, vice-president and general manager, to mark the beginning of the third year of CRI operations.

"Verdoux" Prices Set

Admission prices of $1.80 for matinees and $2.40 for evenings will be maintained at the Broadway Theatre for the showing of Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux" which will open April 11. The premiere will have reserved-seat prices scaled from $3.60 to $1.80. One section of 250 seats will be reserved during the run.

MPTOA Hits

(*Continued from page* 1)

is struggling to maintain his level of earnings in the face of the passing of wartime patronage, Levy pointed out. "But," he asked, "what increased costs does Ascap have and what loss of revenue is it faced with to justify an increase in theatre rates?

"Ascap cuts a large financial melon year after year and assesses the theatres nearly $1,500,000 annually for music inseparable from the film for which exhibitors pay high rentals. The only excuse for higher music taxes that I have seen advanced by Ascap to date is that the present tax was devised during the depression and, therefore, is too low. There has been no attempt to justify a higher tax because of necessity or increased operating costs."

Levy said that radio's argument that it pays a disproportionate share of music tax is irrelevant insofar as theatres are concerned.

"There is no reason why theatres should pay more because radio pays more," he said.

"If MPTOA is approached on an increase in music taxes," Levy said, "I will recommend to our board of directors that an increase be fought with every means available to us."

Washington Owners Defer Action on ASCAP Royalties

SEATTLE, April 3.—Richard Hone, head of the Independent Theatres Association, said here today that independent exhibitors in Washington will take no action on ASCAP's attempt to collect revenue from them until a decision is handed down by the State Supreme Court.

The association's attorneys have filed an appeal with the high court.

Court Upholds City

(*Continued from page* 1)

from preventing exhibition of "The Outlaw" in the Globe, Republic and Gotham theatres, where several months ago the picture was scheduled to open simultaneously, Shientag held that the commissioners were acting within their powers in serving notice on the exhibitors that arrest and prosecution and license revocation would follow the film's showing.

Hughes, who, it is expected, will now take the case to the New York Court of Appeals, had brought action in the Supreme Court for a declaratory judgment and injunction against the commissioners. He had contended that under Article 43 of the Education Law exhibitors would not be subjected to prosecution. The court held, however, that that article provides for a review of charges by the State Motion Picture Censor Board at the behest of an exhibitor and that in the event of an adverse decision for the exhibitor an appeal may be made to the State Board of Regents. No action was brought by the exhibitors, however. Hughes alone had challenged the commissioners' stand.




COMING EVENTS
CAST THEIR SHADOWS
BEFORE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 67 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, APRIL 7, 1947 TEN CENTS

Push Building Code Towards Start by Fall

Plan Hearings in May or June on N.Y. Standards

New York State's new standard building code, which includes sweeping changes in theatre specifications, appears likely to go into effect early next fall, following a decision by the State Labor Department's Board of Standard and Appeals to hold hearings on the document in May or June.

The code, drawn up by the department a year ago and designed to supplant standards that have been unrevised for a quarter of a century, was delayed until now, pending possible conflicting action by the State legislature. With no such action having been taken at the session which ended last Tues-

(*Continued on page* 10)

Invite Exhibitor Views on 5% Tax

ALBANY, N. Y., April 6.—The New York State Tax Commission, which is now drafting model legislation for counties and larger cities empowered to vote special taxes, including a five per cent tax on theatre admissions, has invited the views of theatres or any other interests likely to be affected by the legislation.

No opinion has been given by the commission whether it could establish $1.00 as the minimum admission to be taxed, but it is understood that the commission could prepare such a local ordinance if it is requested by

(*Continued on page* 10)

New Academy Group To Pass on Publicity

HOLLYWOOD, April 6.—Following a stormy board meeting, given over almost wholly to discussion of public relations policy, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences announced the appointment of a committee composed of Walter Wanger, William Dozier and Mary McCall, Jr., to pass on all publicity releases, etc., in advance of their execution.

Following this action, Donald Black, Academy publicity director for the past six months, resigned. No successor has been named.

Some U.S. Houses Cut Prices, Canada Starts Raising Them

TORONTO, April 6.—A general upswing in prices for key theatres of Toronto and Ottawa, as well as other large Canadian cities, has been ordered by Famous Players Canadian Corp. Although the new scales indicated provided for raises of only three or five cents in most prices, starting with juvenile prices, the move is contrary to the trend in the U. S. toward reductions in some areas.

Typically, in the case of the Capitol and Regent Theatres, Ottawa, a new bracket has been established for students. Children up to 12 years of age, will now pay 15 cents instead of 12; from 13 to 15 years they will pay 20 cents, and students from 16 to 18, 25 cents, all for matinee performances. At the Capitol, the night price for children is a straight 20 cents, with the age limit designated at 15 years. A similar plan applies to the Regent. Early matinee price for adults at the Imperial and Shea's in Toronto is 35 cents, compared with the previous 30 cents and later prices are to be 45 cents, compared with 42 cents. Children are to be admitted for 20 cents instead of 18 cents, in the early part of the day and 25 cents thereafter.

The FPC move follows similar action taken for Loew houses in Toronto for a similar upward revision.

N. Y. Censor Post Test Delayed Again

ALBANY, N. Y., April 6.—A Civil Service examination for the position of director of the motion picture division of the State Education Department, vacated by Irwin Esmond two years ago, will not be held before July and perhaps not until September. It has been delayed repeatedly since the post was vacated.

Responsibility for the delay still lies in a dispute between the Education Department and the Civil Service Commission over whether the examination should be one for promotion of qualified employes (urged by the department), or an open competitive examination (desired by the commission).

The delay is one of the longest for an important position in recent state history. Dr. Ward Bowen, head of the Bureau of Visual Aids and Radio, became acting motion picture division head last summer when Dr. Irwin Conroe, assistant division director, withdrew because of pressure of other duties. Bowen, however, is not a candidate for permanent director.

Enterprise Picture In Britain Possible

Barbara Stanwyck may make a picture for Enterprise under her arrangement with the Charles Einfeld-David Loew company, she revealed here Friday at an industry press interview upon her return to this country from England with her husband, Robert Taylor. In addition to her five-picture deal with Enterprise, in which she

(*Continued on page* 11)

Loew's Gets 'Duel' On Day-Date Runs

David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" will open simultaneously in 37 Loew's neighborhood theatres in the Metropolitan area at advanced admission prices and in the Capitol on Broadway on May 7. The neighborhood engagements are for one week, while the Capitol booking is for an indefinite run.

In addition, "Duel" has been booked in all Loew cities except Houston, Texas., comprising 35 cities in the United States and Toronto, Ont.

Admission scale for the neighborhood runs has not been set yet but it will be the same as at the Capitol on Broadway. The 38 New York area houses are expected to be scaled from 90 cents to $1.25 or $1.50. The Capitol booking eliminates the regular personal appearance phase of the theatre's stage show.

Joseph R. Vogel represented

(*Continued on page* 11)

East-West Studio Group Meets Here

Meetings which may continue today were begun here yesterday by the East-West joint committee on studio affairs. The sessions were described as the annual spring meeting of company presidents and the Producers Committee, usually held on the Coast but conducted here because the Eastern group, under the pressure of other work, had to remain in New York.

While the jurisdictional labor dispute is a likely part of the agenda,

(*Continued on page* 11)

Eight Adverse Bills Killed In Six States

N. Y. Is Only State to Date to Pass Tax Law

Eight bills which would have adversely affected the industry either in the form of new theatre taxation or in the establishment of censorship boards have been defeated in six of the 17 state legislatures which now have adjourned, according to John Bryson, special legislative assistant to Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association.

Of the remaining 10 states, only one, New York, allowed the passage of a detrimental measure, one giving large cities and counties the authorization to impose additional five per

(*Continued on page* 10)

Extend Time for Appeals Docketing

WASHINGTON, April 6.—The eight major defendants in the industry antitrust suit and the Department of Justice have been granted an extension to May 10 of the time allowed for docketing their appeals from the New York Federal Court decision with the

(*Continued on page* 10)

Dietz Will Be M.C. At AMPA Dinner

Howard Dietz, vice-president of Loew's, and director of advertising-publicity of M-G-M, will serve as member-guest master-of-ceremonies at the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' 30th anniversary dinner-dance, to be held in the Hotel Astor, here, April 23, Rutgers Neilson, AMPA's retiring president, announces. The occasion, of which Phil Williams is general chairman, will be held in honor of film company presidents.

Reviewed Today

"That's My Man," "Three on a Ticket," page 3; "The Ghost Goes Wild," "Yankee Fakir," "Shoot to Kill," page 6; St. Francis of Assisi" "Temptation Harbour," page 11.

Personal Mention

CHARLES REAGAN, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution, is due here today from the Coast.

•

CHESTER FRIEDMAN, editor of the *Managers' Round Table* of *Motion Picture Herald,* is recuperating at home, following his discharge on Friday from Lexington Hospital where he underwent an appendectomy.

•

RAY GALLO, equipment advertising manager of Quigley Publications, left here last night for a month's survey of domestic and export merchandising plans of equipment manufacturers in the field.

•

HAL HORNE, vice-president in charge of production for Story Productions, has returned to Hollywood by plane from New York.

•

N. PETER RATHVON, president of RKO and RKO Radio, is scheduled to arrive here from the Coast by train today.

•

HAROLD LEWIS, manager of the RKO Pathe studio in New York, is due here from the Coast today.

•

WILLIAM FOREST CROUCH, producer, has left New York by plane for Miami and Havana.

•

W. E. CALLOWAY, Western district salesman for United Artists, is in Seattle from San Francisco.

•

D. A. DORAN, Paramount studio production executive, is due here from the Coast on April 21.

•

DAVID LEWIS, Enterprise producer, is due to return here from England today on the *Queen Elizabeth.*

•

MONTE SHAFF, Universal-International producer, left New York at the weekend for the Coast.

•

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO Radio vice-president, and DAVE PRINCE, district manager, were in Charlotte last week.

•

HARRY WARNER, president of Warner Bros., is expected here from the Coast April 10.

•

JOEL LEVY, Loew's out-of-town booker, has returned to New York from Canada.

•

C. J. ZERN, Altec's Dallas district manager, has returned to his headquarters from New York.

•

HUGH G. MARTIN, M and M Theatre Circuit in Florida, was recently in Atlanta.

•

JO ANN LEACH has been added to booking staff of Martin and Thompson Theatres in Atlanta.

•

FRED KOHLMAR, 20th Century-Fox producer, is here from Hollywood.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THERE was a much greater divergence of opinion over the drafting of the order for a stay of the New York Federal court's decree than is reflected in the dissent of 20th Century-Fox from the draft which finally was subscribed to by the seven other defendant companies.

Some exhibitor leaders who are violently opposed to competitive bidding were heard to remark last week that only 20th Century-Fox and the Department of Justice were opposed to the stay petitions, which left 20th-Fox practically seeing eye-to-eye with the prosecuting attorney.

It wasn't nearly as simple as that. A good many others understood and agreed with the 20th-Fox position in whole or in part but didn't feel, as 20th-Fox apparently did, that the position was beyond compromise.

•

At the outset, the five theatre owning companies were content to ask for a stay of the decree provision liquidating the industry arbitration system, at least insofar as the arbitration of clearance disputes was concerned. With such a stay, they contended, arbitrators could conform to the general principles on clearances laid down in the New York decision.

United Artists and Universal asked for stays of competitive biding and all of Section II covering distribution practices, with the exception of the decree's ban on franchises. Columbia asked for somewhat less than all of Section II. None of the three non-theatre owning companies cared whether arbitration continued or not, providing that stays of the clearance provisions were granted.

When it became apparent at the hearing before Justice Stanley Reed that the court was sympathetic to the petitions of the so-called Little Three, counsel for Loew's, Paramount and Warners, contending that the Little Three comprised formidable competition, asked that stays granted to any company be extended to others, as well. RKO took no position on this and 20th-Fox remained adamant, as it did to the very end, against broad stays of any kind.

The Department of Justice, of course, opposed all stays.

It was this division of viewpoint among the eight petitioners, according to observers, that prevented Justice Reed from granting stays at the conclusion of the hearing, although disposed to do so. He asked the petitioners to agree among themselves on what they wanted and draw up an order which he could sign.

•

The divergence of opinion among the petitioners appears to stem from their views of their liability under the New York decision, which is law and will continue to be law unless it is reversed by the Supreme Court after the appeals have been heard.

The granting of stays of the decree does not relieve the defendants of liability under the law as contained in the decision. It merely relieves them of liability for contempt of the decree while the law is being reviewed. In the meantime, they are answerable to civil actions charging violations of the law as set forth in the New York decision.

Any defendant company, of course, is free to gamble on the possibility that the New York decision will be reversed by the Supreme Court on appeal, in which case all liability under the law would be erased. However, those who would gamble would have to match their opinions against those of the trio of high-ranking Federal jurists who comprised the New York trial court. Not many are so inclined.

But at this stage, it is easier, in the opinion of most, to comply with the law, as contained in the decision, than to comply with the rules as set forth in the decree. The stay, of course, affects only the decree.

• •

A film journal contemporary referred the other day to MOTION PICTURE DAILY's exclusive story of last Monday on the granting of a stay of the industry decree by the Supreme Court as "an erroneous report."

Premature, perhaps, but not erroneous. And premature only because defense attorneys could not immediately agree among themselves on what they wanted in the order which the Supreme Court, through Justice Stanley Reed, told them on March 28 it was disposed to grant.

The correctness of the DAILY's story is self-evident. If the Supreme Court had not authorized a stay, the industry arbitration tribunals, to cite just one example, would have been in process of liquidation last week, but they are open for business.

Newsreel Parade

COMING in for prominence in all current newsreels are the Big Four being entertained at a Moscow ballet, and scenes of the Haifa oil explosion. Other items include Prince Paul succeeding to the Greek throne, the circus, sports and floods. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 63—World events: U. N. hears Austin on Greece. Big Four attend ballet. Haifa oil plant set afire. Easter in Old Jerusalem. New device picks up cars and parks them on a "shelf." Quarter of a million migrating geese fill Iowa skies. Sports: Baseball, Cy Young, 80 years young. Winter skiing. Surf thrills.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 261—Huge fire in Haifa, but peace reigns in Jerusalem. New King Paul rules in Greece and U. N. investigates civil war. Moscow's famed ballet entertains Big Four. Rough surf-riding for "Duck." Living statues. Sporting deer.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 64—India's last Viceroy. Big Four at Moscow ballet. Terrorists set off oil blast in Palestine. New king rules in Greek crisis. U. N. probes border incident. Sports: Gas tanks make fine boats. A flare for water skiing.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 66—Tanker snaps in half. Big Four at Moscow ballet. Terrorists blow up Haifa oil. Floods in ruined Germany. Show Van Gogh paintings. Coast Guard duck battles surf.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 27—Prince Paul succeeds to Greek throne. Foreign ministers attend ballet performance. All-Asia conference at New Delhi, India. Floods sweep Spain. Circus prepares for spring. Shark-boats tried out at Long Beach, Cal. Some 250,000 geese on the wing from winter migration grounds. Night water-skiing in Miami.

Warner Managers Meet in Chicago

CHICAGO, April 6.—Warners' Western division sales manager Roy Haines met with district managers here over the weekend in connection with the company's 1947 sales drive, which begins on April 27.

Those present included Harry A. Seed, Mid-West district manager; A. J. Shumow, Chicago branch manager; Robert H. Dunbar, Detroit; Nat Marcus, Milwaukee; Art Anderson, Minneapolis, and W. W. Brumberg, drive captain, from the home office.

Haines and Brumberg are due back here today.

Indiana Exhibitors To Meet April 22

INDIANAPOLIS, April 6.—A district meeting for member and non-member exhibitors in the Northeast section of the state will be held by the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana at the Keenan Hotel, Fort Wayne, on April 22. It will open with a noon luncheon. Ray Kalver of Decatur, vice-president of the ATOI, will preside.

Trueman Rembusch, secretary of national Allied, is president of the ATOI.

Three Houses Sold

DENVER, April 6.—E. J. Blaylock has sold the Apache and Pueblo Theatres in Ruidoso, N. M., to Theatre Enterprises, Inc. A. P. Sitton has sold the Musu in Tulorosa, N. M., to Ed Turner.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Coming Events

April 7-10—American Public Relations Association convention, Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

April 8-9—Republic regional sales meeting, Hotel Blackstone, Chicago.

April 14-18—Republic regional sales meeting, Hollywood.

April 14-15—Television executives meeting, Hotel Commodore, New York.

April 14—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, Charlotte.

April 16—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, Chicago.

April 16—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, Salt Lake City.

April 20—Theatre Equipment and Supply Dealers meeting, Hotel Drake, Chicago.

April 21-22—North Central Allied convention, Minneapolis.

April 21—Edward M. Fay industry testimonial dinner, sponsored by the Independent Theatre Owners of Rhode Island, Hotel Sheraton-Biltmore, Providence.

April 21—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, Albany.

April 21—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, at a special North Central Allied luncheon, Minneapolis.

April, third week—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, Pittsburgh.

April 23—Associated Motion Picture Advertisers luncheon-meeting, Hotel Astor, New York.

April 28—M-G-M division, district and branch managers meeting, Hotel Astor, New York.

Costa Rican Girls in Miami on April 14

The three Costa Rican beauty contest winners touring this country to promote 20th Century-Fox's "Carnival in Costa Rica" will be honor guests at a banquet sponsored by the Pan American League in Miami next Monday for Pan American Day. During the six-day celebration, the girls will attend the premiere of the film at the opening of the new Miami Theatre.

They left here last night for visits to Cincinnati, St. Louis, Chicago and Milwaukee, accompanied by Sid Blumstock, 20th's assistant exploitation manager.

Jack Warner to UJA

LOS ANGELES, April 6.—Jack Warner and Walter Wanger have agreed to serve as co-chairmen of the film industry division of the 1947 United Jewish Appeal drive on the Coast, of which Dore Schary and Abe Lastfogel have already been named co-chairmen. Samuel Goldwyn has been announced as chairman of the Jewish Welfare Fund in Los Angeles, which conducts the UJA campaign here.

Reviews

"That's My Man"

(Republic)

VETERAN craftsman Frank Borzage's second production for Republic presents equal measures of comedy, pathos and excitement, mounted, for the most part, against breath-takingly sumptuous settings that are almost certain to command audible audience reaction. It is a picture of substantial casting. Don Ameche and Catherine McLeod (she made her starring debut in Borzage-Republic's recent "I'll Always Love You") are in the leads, and Roscoe Karns, John Ridgely, Kitty Irish, Joe Frisco, young Gregory Marshall and others are in support. With these box-office assets in mind, it can be safely assumed that "That's My Man" (a compelling title, also a definite asset) will prove to be one of Republic's biggest money-makers of the year.

The central theme of the Steve Fisher-Bradley King script is horse-racing; however, the principal ramification thereof is a story of love and marriage which has been endowed with a measured pace that stands in sharp contrast to the thrill-laden race-track sequences. Ameche's is a volatile role, generally well managed. His performance in earlier scenes, comic for the most part, is rendered with more conviction, however, than is apparent in his later portrayal of the husband who sacrifices home and family for gambling. Miss McLeod is strikingly pretty as the young drug store clerk who, fascinated by Ameche's philosophy of living by the dictates of his heart rather than his mind, marries the aspiring young horse-breeder only to find that his gambling blood is too thick for normal family living. The events are related in flash-back fashion by taxi-driver Karns who was instrumental in bringing the couple together at the outset when Ameche, homeless, practically resided in the taxi in company with a colt which turns out to be one of the greatest race-horses of all time, and a source of a huge income that permits the couple and their child to live in luxury.

Borzage's direction is characteristically workmanlike throughout, giving special appeal to the climactic scenes wherein Gallant Man, the horse, although retired for a number of years, comes through from far behind to win a race that brings together again Ameche, down at the heels, and Miss McLeod, who had brought the horse out of retirement as a means of effecting a reconciliation. Here is a picture that will please every member of the family. Lew Borzage was associate producer.

Running time, 104 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"Three on a Ticket"

(Producers Releasing)

MAINTAINING an even keel with its predecessors in the "Michael Shayne, Detective" series, "Three on a Ticket" provides sufficient twists and mystery to satisfy the customers, with Hugh Beaumont, as the private "eye," and Cheryl Walker, as his secretary, turning in likeable performances. Part of a baggage check, borne by another private detective, is the focal point of the plot as Beaumont undergoes thrashings and threats to discover why the baggage check caused the murder of its original holder.

There is a man-size portion of dirty work at the bottom of the story before Beaumont, always a few steps ahead of his police-inspector friend, Ralph Dunn, manages to unmask an imposter as one of three seeking the loot from a robbery. In the cast are: Paul Bryar, Louise Currie, Douglas Fowley and Gavin Gordon. Sigmund Neufield produced and Sam Newfield directed, from a screenplay by Fred Myton.

Running time, 62 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 5.

IRVING KAPLAN

Glassford Is Named RCA European Chief

William A. Glassford, former vice-admiral of the U. S. Navy, has been appointed European manager of RCA by David Sarnoff. Glassford, who will supervise RCA activities in the United Kingdom and on the Continent, will have headquarters in London.

Glassford served with the Navy in both World War I and II, and upon conclusion of the latter became Commander of U. S. Naval Forces in Germany, in control of sea communications for the U. S. Army of Occupation. His retirement from the Navy became effective on March 1.

Tronolone to Mexico

Nick Tronolone, vice-president of Pathe Laboratories, Inc., left New York over the weekend for Mexico City to select personnel for the new RKO Pathe laboratory being constructed there.

Northwest Meeting

PORTLAND, Ore., April 6. — Executives and managers of Evergreen State Theatres of the Northwest are holding a general meeting here.

U. S.-Canadian RMA Meeting April 24-25

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Television and FM promotion discussions will keynote the Canadian and U. S. Radio Manufacturers Associations' joint conference of directors to be held April 24-25 at Absecon, N. J.

The 23rd annual RMA convention will be held in Chicago June 10-12. Preliminary plans have already been completed and it is expected that Federal Communications Commission chairman Charles R. Denny will address the convention on its last day.

Radio Scripters Take Strike Vote Today

Members of the Radio Writers Guild here and in Hollywood will hold a strike vote today because of the refusal of the four major networks and independent stations to discuss contracts for free-lance writers. Chicago members vote tomorrow night.

Ray Langham, the union's executive secretary, says that a 30-day notice will be filed if a strike is authorized.

'City of Brotherly Love' No Misnomer

When an exhibitor gives a portion of his paid-for newspaper space to plug the product of his competitor, that's news, probably without precedent. At the bottom of its three - column advertisement in the *Inquirer* and *Bulletin*, Philadelphia's Fox Theatre proclaims: "Congratulations to the Arcadia and Pix Theatres on booking 'Best Years of Our Lives.' The Academy Award-winning picture is one of the greatest of all times and deserving of the greatest crowds in Philadelphia's history."

Curtiz Visit Here For Talent Hunt

As an independent producer who, in common with other independents, finds himself in a weak bargaining position for star talent, Michael Curtiz, who has completed his first picture, "Unsuspected," under his own banner, has embarked on a policy of finding new talent and developing future stars. This, he explained at the week-end prior to his scheduled departure yesterday for Hollywood, was the primary objective of his week's visit in New York.

With stars demanding exorbitant salaries or a percentage of profits for appearances in independent pictures, Curtiz continued, the "lone wolf producer," who has limited financial resources and must stake his future on fewer sure-fire hits, cannot afford too many gambles. Therefore, he added, although he has set $1,700,000 as the top budget for each of his pictures, his success in keeping "Unsuspected" down to approximately $1,200,000 will permit him to plan a $2,500,000 production. Filming of "Victoria Grandolet" from the Henry Bellaman novel will probably be the high-water mark in Curtiz's schedule, but not until after the producer-director has four other pictures completed.

Among other films projected by Curtiz, which will release through Warners, are Frances Marion's "Shadow of Fear," an original; James M. Cain's "Serenade," Clarence Buddington Kelland's "Sugarfoot," "Winter Killers" and "Romance in High C."

Charlotte Variety Bids Two Farewell

CHARLOTTE, April 6.—The local Variety Club gave a farewell dinner on Friday in honor of Ben Rosenwald, manager of the M-G-M Charlotte branch, who has been transferred to Boston, and to John A. Bachman, Warner manager here, who will become United Artists branch manager in Atlanta. Both will leave within the next 5 days for their new posts.

N. C. Blue Law Vote

MT. AIRY, N. C., April 6.—The city council here is expected to authorize a popular referendum on lifting blue laws, at an election next month as a result of a citizens' petition recently presented to the council.

BULLET-MAN and SILKEN

in a murder war
against all who stood
in their evil path!... Steel-
hard drama teaming the
screen's "Dillinger" as
a sinister slayer, with
beauteous Clair as a partner
aroused to deadly fury by
the one thing a woman
in love can't forgive!



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Produced by HERMAN SCHLOM • Directed by ROBERT WISE
Screen Play by EVE GREENE and RICHARD MACAULAY

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Production in Further Drop, Down 8, to 42

HOLLYWOOD, April 6. — Production has taken another tumble, and the shooting index is down to 34 from its previous level of 42. Twelve features have been completed, and work has started on four. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Her Husband's Affairs."
Shooting: "The Man from Colorado," "Assigned to Treasury" (Kennedy-Buchman).

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: "Out of the Blue," "Love from a Stranger."

M-G-M

Finished: "The Hucksters."
Shooting: "The Pirates," "Good News."

Monogram

Finished: "Scareheads."
Started: "Song of the Saddle," with Jimmy Wakely, Lee (Lasses) White, Dottye Brown.
Shooting: "Kilroy Was Here," "High Tide" (Wrather).

Paramount

Shooting: "The Big Clock."

RKO Radio

Finished: "Indian Summer."
Started: "Mourning Becomes Electra," with Rosalind Russell, Michael Redgrave, Raymond Massey, Katina Paxinou.
Shooting: "Fighting Father Dunne," "Crossfire," "Tycoon."

Republic

Finished: "Saddle Pals," "Springtime in the Sierras."
Started: "Complex" (Wilder), with Albert Dekker, Linda Sterling, Charles Drake, Catherine Craig, Alan Carney; "Along the Oregon Trail," with Monte Hale, Adrian Booth.
Shooting: "The Outcast."

Screen Guild

Finished: "Killer Dill" (King); "Case of the Baby Sitter" (Screen Art); "Hollywood Barn Dance" (formerly "Western Barn Dance") (Schwarz).

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie," "The Paradine Case."

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Second Chance" (Wurtzel).
Shooting: "Kiss of Death," "Scudda Hoo, Scudda Hay," "Captain from Castile."

United Artists

Finished: "Body and Soul" (Enterprise).
Shooting: "Atlantis" (Nero).

Universal-International

Shooting: "Jeopardy," "For the Love of Mary," "Singapore," "The Secret Beyond the Door" (Diana); "Brute Force" (Hellinger); "The Lost Love" (Wanger).

Warners

Finished: "The Unsuspected" (Curtiz).
Shooting: "Treasure of the Sierra Madre," "Whiplash," "Voice of the Turtle," "Two Guys from Texas," "Wallflower."

Reviews

"The Ghost Goes Wild"

(*Republic*)

THE gay fantasy implied in the title is amply present. It is the type of bustling, slapstick comedy that always finds a response in a large number of patrons.

James Ellison, as a commercial artist, finds himself hounded by an irate husband with a shotgun and a woman with a lawsuit. So, when Ellison is thought dead through a mistaken identity tangle, he decides to support the illusion. The only difficulty is that as a "dead" man he cannot marry attractive Anne Gwynne. Things get pretty complicated in the Randall Faye screenplay until a real ghost arrives on the scene and whispers some inside knowledge that works wonders in dissipating Ellison's troubles.

Some trick photography and seance scenes give an added twitter to the proceedings. Others in the cast are: Edward Everett Horton, Ruth Donnelly and Stephanie Bachelor. Armand Schaefer was associate producer, and George Blair directed.

Running time, 66 minutes. General audience classification.

MANNY HERBSTMAN

"Yankee Fakir"

(*Republic*)

AN average mystery set against a Western background, "Yankee Fakir" shows little ingenuity in plot, but does show some wit in the masquerading of Clem Bevans, a down-and-out gold prospector, as a rich uncle of Douglas Fowley in order to ensnare the villain. For those who like their mysteries obvious and spiced with situations that are almost burlesque, this film, produced and directed by W. Lee Wilder, will furnish the diversion sought.

Fowley and Ransom Sherman, two traveling salesmen or, more accurately, "pitchmen," set up their platform in an Arizona town. Boarding at a home managed by Joan Woodbury and her young brother, Tommy Bernard, they become involved in solving the murder of her father, played by Forrest Taylor, has he came close to exposing a smuggling gang. Fowley and Sherman find themselves in the hoosegow on a trumped-up charge and succeed in tricking release when they have Bevans pose as a multi-millionaire. They apply the unorthodox method of running a contest in town, with $50,000 as the reward, to the person who exposes the worst character in town, and succeed—at the last moment. Also in the cast are: Frank Reicher, as the banker, and Marc Lawrence, as a saloon manager. Richard S. Conway script came from a story by Mindred Lord.

Running time, 71 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, I. K.

"Shoot to Kill"

(*Screen Guild Productions*)

Hollywood, April 6

PRODUCER-DIRECTOR William Berke, working with a modest budget, a cast lacking in marquee strength, and an overly complicated script, has managed to achieve a run-of-the-mill melodrama no better and no worse than half-a-hundred others.

Narrated in flashback by the heroine of the piece, Edwin Westrate's original tells of thieves who fall out. The aforementioned heroine, portrayed adequately by Susan Walters, weds a crooked district attorney in order to get evidence against him. The fact that she already has a husband—another crook—does not stop her. In fact, her motive appears to be to help her first, and legal spouse. When he socks her in the jaw, however, she changes her mind. Both husbands are killed in a fortuitous auto accident, leaving her free to find love in the arms of a newspaperman who admires her for reasons best known to himself. The motivation is obscure throughout, and Berke's direction, which relies heavily on close-ups of crooks looking grim, does nothing to clarify matters. Members of the cast, nearly all of whom are killed in the course of events, include Russell Wade, Edmund MacDonald, Douglas Blackley, Vince Barnett, Nestor Paiva, Douglas Trowbridge and Harry Brown.

Running time, 65 minutes. General audience classification. THALIA BELL

Name Pitkin Barker Of Conn. Variety

HARTFORD, April 6.—Barney Pitkin, manager of RKO Radio's branch in New Haven, has been elected chief barker of the new Variety Club of Connecticut.

Other officers of the organization are: Assistant chief barker, Dr. Jack Fishman; second assistant, Rudy Frank; treasurer, George Wilkinson; canvassmen, Carl Goe, John Pavone, Herman Levy, Henry Germaine, Lou Brown and Harry F. Shaw. Property man is Arthur Greenfield.

All Theatres Shut In Mexican City

NUEVO LAREDO, MEX., April 6.—Every theatre in this city, across the Rio Grande from Laredo, Texas, is closed by a strike. Members of the National Cinematographic Industry Workers' Union are said to have received orders from the union's headquarters to stand on their demands for wage increases and other benefits which exhibitors say they cannot pay.

Maria Felix to Produce

MEXICO CITY, April 6. — Dissatisfied with roles that have been offered her, Mexican actress Maria Felix is organizing her own production company to make films in which she will star. She is said to be this country's highest paid film actress.

9 U. S. Films Picked For World Festival

With the United States and nine other nations already having signified intentions to participate in the World Film Festival, which will open in Brussels on June 7, nine American films have been selected so far as entries. Other countries that will take part include: Great Britain, France, Switzerland, Mexico, Argentina, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Italy and Belgium; the USSR is expected to accept.

While U. S. representatives to the festival have not yet been announced, the nine films selected so far by the Motion Picture Association and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, are: "The Jolson Story," Columbia; "Song of the South," Walt Disney; "The Best Years of Our Lives," Samuel Goldwyn; "The Yearling," M-G-M; "To Each His Own," Paramount; "It's a Wonderful Life," RKO Radio; "The Razor's Edge," 20th Century-Fox; "The Egg and I," Universal-International; "Humoresque," Warner Brothers.

An international forum on the theme, "Cinema and Human Culture," will be held in connection with the festival. It is understood that the French team will include J. Benoit-Levy, head of the United Nations film division, and on the British side, J. Arthur Rank; Julian Huxley, director-general of the UNESCO; David Lean, and Laurence Olivier are among those who have been invited to represent that nation.

Discount Effect of Rank N. Z. Theatres

WASHINGTON, April 6. — J. Arthur Rank's expansion into New Zealand last year with the purchase of a half-interest in a circuit of 55 theatres will have little effect on the number of Grade A American films shown there, the U. S. Department of Commerce predicts here.

The Department quotes members of the trade in New Zealand as believing that if any American pictures are affected, they will be Grade B films. The number of British films shown is expected to increase and it is believed their release will be speeded.

From Jan. 1 to July 25, 1946, 587 films were screened in New Zealand, the Department reports. Of these, 494 were American and 93 British. During the year 1944-45, 361 full-length films were shown, of which 310 were American, 49 British, one Australian, and one Russian.

The Department points out that while American films are taxed 25 per cent of their gross receipts, British films are taxed only 10 per cent.

778 Films in Italy

ROME, April 1 (By Airmail).—Italy produced 778 pictures from 1930 through 1946. Represented in this total were about 130 producing companies, with the Scalera and Cines companies accounting for 119 of the pictures.

Austrian Film Ban

VIENNA, March 31 (By Airmail.)—All German pictures produced between 1933 and 1945, and all Austrian pictures produced after 1938 have been banned by the Austrian government.

Spotlight

On Your BOX OFFICE!



You're in the SPOTLIGHT, brother! . . . The PRIZE BABY'S *Spotlight* . . . of patrons' EYES . . . and EARS . . . searching for entertainment . . . and *finding* it . . . through the sparkling *Salesmanship* . . . of *Talking* TRAILERS . . . the colorful *Showmanship* . . . of eye-popping ACCESSORIES . . . the point-of-contact combination . . . that turns SEEing . . . and HEARing . . . into SPENDING . . . and *shoppers* into PATRONS! It's the *gay white way* that attracts *patrons* . . . in *droves* . . . SO . . . *get on the BEAM*, with The PRIZE BABY, brother! . . . That SPOTLIGHT is on YOUR Box Office!

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE

AIMED for a KILLING

Fearlessly he digs into gangland's secrets for the biggest story of his career.



played by RUSSELL WADE a **Daring** newspaper man.

Lures A CROOK to flaming death.



SUSAN WALTERS a **Beauty** who smashes gangster plots

Revenge he seeks ends in thundering death.



DOUGLAS BLACKLEY **Clears** his name but does not win life.



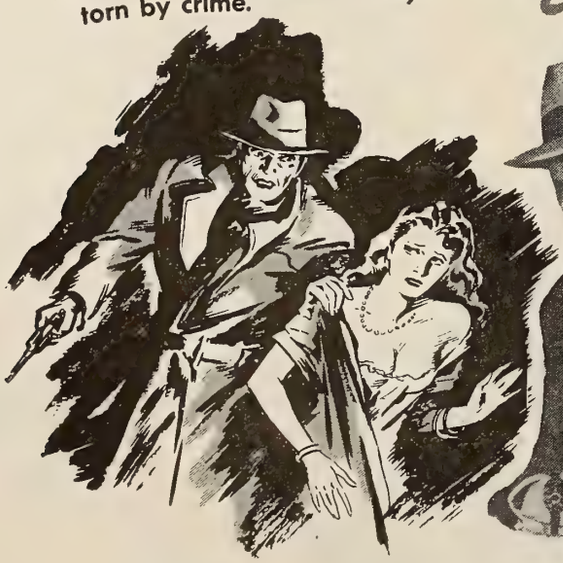
Roaring gun battles between rival gangs of a city torn by crime.



She falls for a reporter, but her past is a haunting spectre.



He wrings out confessions at the point of a menacing gun.



Robert L. Lippert
presents

SHOOT

HERE THEY COME! SCREEN GUILD IS ON IT'S

"BELLS OF SAN FERNANDO"
with
Donald WOODS • Gloria WARREN • Shirley O'HARA • Anthony WARDE
Paul NEWLAN • Byron FOULGER • Monte BLUE • David LEONARD

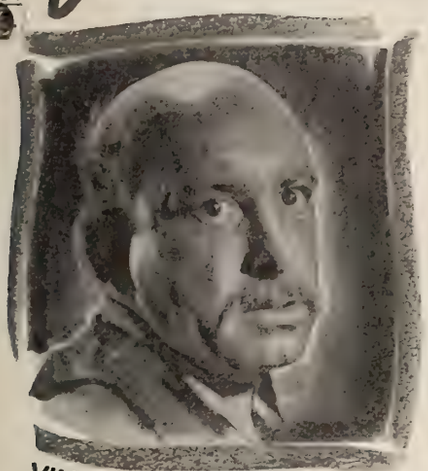
"BUFFALO BILL RIDES AGAIN"
Starring RICHARD ARLEN *with*
Jennifer HOLT • Lee SHUMWAY • Gil PATRICK • Edward CASSIDY
Edmund COBB • Ted ADAMS • John DEXTER • Hollis BLAINE

"BUSH
with
ROCHELLE HUDSON
AUSTIN WILLIS • FRANK

Home Office: 346 So. LaBrea Ave., Hollywood, Calif.— Distributed by **SCREEN**

at YOUR BOXOFFICE!

Hurtling Death ends his spying on gangster plotters.



VINCENT BARNETT almost trips up a **Crooked** prosecutor.

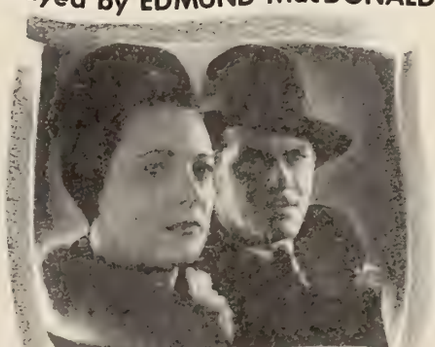


he covers his counter **Plotting** under a janitor's disguise.

Double DOUBLE CROSSER who tears a city apart with gangland strife.



Crooked Politician played by EDMUND MacDONALD.



a **beautiful** girl uses her wiles to trip up her crooked husband!

Snarling Chief of gangdom's killer mobsters.

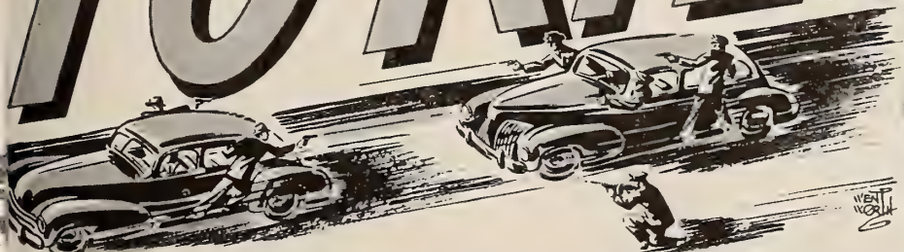


NESTOR PAIVA plays the toughest **Mobster** of all.



he threatens **Death** when he suspects a doublecross.

TO KILL





WAY! PICTURES MADE FOR YOUR THEATRE!

"PILOT"

JACK LA RUE
ERRY • FLORENCE KENNEDY

"THE CASE OF THE BABY SITTER"

with

TOM NEAL • PAMELA BLAKE
VIRGINIA SALE • ALLEN JENKINS

"THE HAT BOX MYSTERY"

with

TOM NEAL • ALLEN JENKINS
VIRGINIA SALE • PAMELA BLAKE

GUILD Productions, Inc. – Foreign Dep't.: 723 7th Ave., New York City — Cable: "Guildfilms."



93% of Home Radio Saturation Claimed

A total of 35,900,000 homes in this country now have radio receivers in use, covering 93 per cent of all families, which is an all-time high, according to findings of a survey made for Columbia Broadcasting by Market Research Co., and a study of these findings by Nielson Radio Index, also for Columbia.

The survey, announced by Elmo C. Wilson, CBS director of research, was made in January and February, following a record year of radio receiver production.

Hellman To Do Two

HOLLYWOOD, April 6.—British producer Marcel Hellman will produce two pictures in London for 20th Century-Fox within the next year, the studio has announced, following a conference between Hellman and Darryl F. Zanuck. The announcement denied that Maurice Ostrer will be executive producer for 20th-Fox in England, but added that the company is negotiating with him to make two pictures there.

Building Code

(*Continued from page* 1)

day, the way is now considered clear to proceed on the project.

Hearings by the Board of Standards and Appeals are expected to consume approximately two weeks, followed by several months of deliberation, according to John Coggeshall, industrial code referee for the department.

Theatre owners will have an opportunity at the hearings to voice any objections they may have to new specifications provided. These include: Lights of specific wattage and spacing, "controlled from a location inaccessible to unauthorized persons"; new-theatre projection booths measuring at least 10-by-8-by-8 feet and having exits at each end; ventilated dressing rooms with either fire protection or sprinkler systems; enclosed stairways above the second floor; cross aisles serving sidewall exits, which must be within 125 feet of the farthest seats, at least 36 inches between the stage and the first row of seats. Two years will be allowed for conformance to the specifications. Cities having codes of their own will be exempt.

Exhibitor representatives in the advisory committee that helped draw up the code were Henry Anderson, Paramount; Louis Lazar, Schine Circuit; Theodore Jung, Loew's; Martin Tracey, Century circuit.

Extend Time

(*Continued from page* 1)

U. S. Supreme Court.

The extension of time also will apply to the preparation of exhibits entered during the New York trial which will be used in the Supreme Court appeals.

The original period allowed the parties to the suit expired yesterday. The parties have reached an agreement on the printing of the record of the New York case for the appeals and also have agreed on the apportionment of the costs of printing among them. It is estimated that costs may amount to less than $1,000 for each defendant and the Department for the preparation of the record on appeal.

Schlanger, Callow Aid Cancer Drive

PHILADELPHIA April 6.—Edward Schlanger, Warner Theatres general manager here, has been appointed publicity chairman of the local 1947 cancer campaign, held under the auspices of the Philadelphia division of the American Cancer Society. Edward C. Callow, Warner publicity director here, is co-chairman.

5% N. Y. State Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

taxing groups. The localities may or may not use the full powers granted under the sweeping but permissive measure, adoption of which Gov. Dewey had urged.

The $1.00 minimum on admissions was proposed by American Theatres Association secretary Robert Coyne and the committee of New York City metropolitan exhibitor leaders in conferences with the Governor's counsel Charles Brietel and Senate Finance Committee chairman Arthur Wicks the day before the bill passed the legislature. Brietel and Wicks, it is understood, rejected the proposal because under such circumstances the legislation would not produce sufficient revenue. None of the special taxes can be put into effect before July 1.

Theatre Group Here Would Welcome Hearings

The Metropolitan New York Motion Picture Theatres Owners Association here would welcome any hearings on taxation matters, a spokesman states, but have yet to be approached by the State Tax Commission.

Will Not Impose Tax Until Costs Are Known

ALBANY, N. Y., April 6.—This city will not impose any special taxes as authorized by the Burney Bill until the city knows what it would cost to provide teachers higher salaries recently approved by the legislature, according to Mayor Erastus Corning, who said that until the costs are known, "there is no urgent need to consider how to use special taxing powers to meet the increased cost."

Kill 8 Adverse Bills

(*Continued from page* 1)

cent levies on theatre admissions.

Censorship measures were voted down in Indiana, West Virginia, Massachusetts and New Hampshire; tax bills were rejected in Arkansas, Montana, Indiana and West Virginia, he said.

Censorship bills are still pending in Iowa, Delaware, Connecticut and Missouri and on each of these hearings have yet to be set. Bryson said that the MPA works in concert with exhibitors in each state where unfavorable legislation is introduced.

He said that the New York tax threat measure will now be fought on local levels, wherever a city or county considers exercising its new taxing powers.

The 17 state legislaturse adjourned are: Arkansas, Arizona, Idaho, Georgia, Indiana, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Wyoming, Utah, Washington, North and South Dakota, West Virginia, New York, Tennessee and Maryland.

American Pictures Lead in Palestine

By IBRAHIM ZEIN

JAFFA, PALESTINE, March 31, (By Airmail)—First-run houses in Jerusalem, Jaffa, Haifa and Tel-Aviv played during the first two months of 1947, some 106 pictures, 77 of them American. Major U. S. companies distributed 72, and independents five. Films from other nations came as follows: Arabic-Egyptian, 10; British, eight; French, five; Russian, three (one of them in Arabic); Italian, two; Hebrew, one.

In line with a general feeling that admissions are too high, a citizens committee has been formed in Beyrouth to seek a reduction of at least 35 per cent. A general rise in the cost of living is responsible for the spiraling of admissions which have risen from around 20 cents before the war to 65 cents or more.

The Minister of Economy is at present weighing a reduction request submitted by the committee.

Set Up Near East Release Channels

JAFFA, Palestine, April 1, (By Airmail)—As a result of a decrease in sales, Egyptian companies producing Arab-language films are installing agencies or contracting distributors to release their product in Palestine, Syria and Lebanon. Distributors are given from 10 to 15 per cent of the gross.

Studio Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

there are no indications of an immediate strike settlement.

Frank Freeman Among Charles Boren Party

HOLLYWOOD, April 6.—Frank Freeman, chairman of the major producers' labor committee, was among the members accompanying Charles S. Boren to New York for conferences with company presidents. Although the agenda of the conferences was not officially disclosed, informed belief here was that the studio strike is uppermost on the list, with contract proposals being prepared by the Screen Actors Guild also scheduled for scrutiny.

'Duel' to Loew's

(*Continued from page* 1)

Loew's in the deal which was closed late Friday, and Milton Kusell represented the Selznick Releasing Organization.

The Loew's Metropolitan houses involved in the day and date booking are: Valencia, Paradise, 83d Street, 175th Street, 72nd Street, Lexington, Olympia, Sheridan, Victoria, Orpheum, Yonkers, Mt. Vernon, New Rochelle, Commodore, Delancey, White Plains, Kings, Triboro, Pitkin, 42nd Street, Alpine, Oriental, Coney Island, Bedford, Gates, Plaza, Prospect, Woodside, Fairmount, 167th Street, National, Post Road, American, Boulevard, Inwood, Metropolitan, Newark and Jersey City.

Reviews

"St. Francis of Assisi"

(*Azteca Films*)

IT would seem unfortunate if this Mexican-made, English-titled production is relegated to the confines of "art" theatres. The life history of St. Francis of Assisi lends itself to splendid and intermittently stirring pictorial translation with apparent loyalty to basic biographical fact blended with plausible surrounding fiction.

The story of Francisco, born in a stable in an Italian village, is splendidly enacted, although the cast has no name value here, and the settings provide a complete air of apparent authenticity. The direction is careful, wholly effective.

Francisco, at the behest of his Superior, subjects himself to humility and poverty. He is endowed with miraculous powers, which he exerts in curing lepers. Those who had scorned him become his followers. In elaborating on these fundamentals, producer Pedro A. Calderon and the entire company enrich the picture with abundance of compelling drama.

An element of incongruity is suggested by a sub-plot involving the sinful conduct of an Italian count, including attempted seduction, this in contrast to the main theme. And the footage, two hours of it, could be cut. Otherwise, all is well.

Running time, 120 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

GENE ARNEEL

"Temptation Harbour"

(*ABPC-Pathe—British*)

London

BASED on a best-selling novel by Georges Simenon (leading French practitioner in the Ellery Queen motif) this might have developed as just another blood-curdler. The thrills, chills, frills, are all there, plus a satisfying allotment of bloody murder and other varieties of violence. But producer Victor Skutezky, director Lance Comfort, essayed the more hazardous path of portraying the tortured anguish of a good man's soul when he falls victim to the lure of big money and the seductive sidelong glances of a cross-channel siren.

Master Good Man is a simple railway signalman—one of the authentic innocents—who operates the night trains in and out of an English Channel port. From his cabin on the dark harbor he sees murder done, rushes to the rescue, but retrieves, instead of the victim's body, a suitcase packed with a fortune in the form of Bank of England bills. It is a fortune that he would never earn by working. So what to do: particularly as he has a motherless child and—more particularly—in view of the languorous, disturbing curves of that French gal from across the water? He slips into the uneasy trail of trifling with temptation. It is a trail which leads Master Good Man himself to murder.

Robert Newton invests the simple innocent with an ocean of sympathy. Simone Simon is as naughty, sly, disturbing and comely a chit as we have lately encountered on or off the screen. There is also a new young lady—Margaret Barton—who plays the motherless child. Being endowed with obvious ability and charm it is fortunate for Miss Barton that she makes her screen debut in a picture of such merit.

Running time, 101 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

PETER BURNUP

Mishkind Named SRO 3-Area Sales Head

CLEVELAND, April 6. — Leonard Mishkind, long associated with Republic as a salesman, has been appointed Selznick Releasing Organization sales manager in charge of the Cleveland, Cincinnati and Detroit areas, with headquarters in Cleveland. Grover C. Schaefer, SRO home office representative, made the appointment.

Physical distribution and inspection of SRO product will be handled in the areas by E. S. Johnson and Louis C. Gross of Central Shipping Terminal, a member of National Film Distributors, which is scheduled to handle physical distribution nationally for SRO.

Sayers Flying Here

HOLLYWOOD, April 6.—Jack Sayers, Audience Research Institute vice-president, will fly to New York tomorrow for conferences with headquarters executives on ARI plans to enter the radio field.

Satenstein Sets Deal

Broadway producer Frank Satenstein has arranged to produce four films independently this year, his first screen effort.

Enterprise Picture

(*Continued from page* 1)

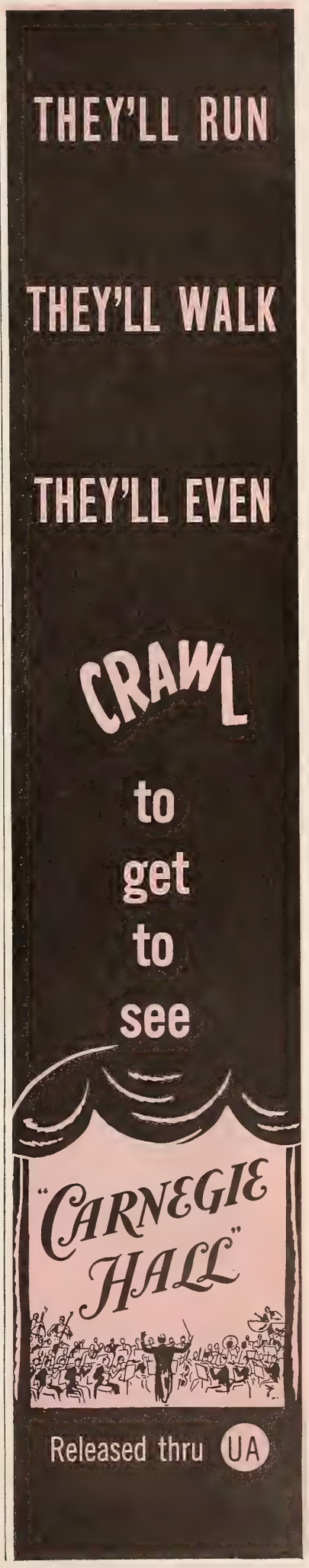
is a profit participant, she said that she has similar one-picture-a-year pact for five years with Hal Wallis Productions and Warner Brothers.

Their two-month trip to England and the Continent, in connection with the world premiere of her first for Enterprise, "The Other Love," led Taylor to conclude that any gesture of "goodwill" between the United States and British film industries "would be a good thing at the present time." He called for additional exchange of premieres of the pictures of one country in the other and added that British criticisms of American response to their pictures, while warranted in part, might be allayed if Britain were to set up a sales organiation here "to plug their pictures here as we do ours both here and in Britain."

Miss Stanwyck and Taylor will remain in New York until tomorrow, when they will entrain for Chicago.

Hayworth to Europe

Rita Hayworth, star of Columbia's Technicolor film, "Down to Earth," will arrive here April 12 on the first leg of a goodwill tour of Europe in connection with exploitation of the film.







Artist . . . with light and shadow

● To hold the drama which darkness gave this scene, yet not sacrifice identity and clarity of action . . . this was the problem on which the picture's director and the director of photography worked hard—and successfully.

To this same end the timer also worked —successfully. By his skilled selection of printing light, his judgment of light and shadow, he faithfully interpreted the director's aim . . . made certain that the visual result would be vivid, dramatic, convincing.

To get the most from his ability, the timer must work with film of assured uniformity . . . one of the many qualities which make the family of Eastman motion picture films so useful to the industry.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

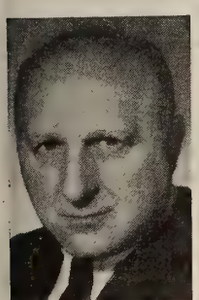
Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 68 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 1947 TEN CENTS

Para. 1946 Net, $44,040,000; All-Time High

Compares with Net of $17,952,432 in 1945

All-time high earnings for a motion picture company have been established by Paramount Pictures, Inc., which yesterday estimated its 1946 profit at $44,040,000.



Barney Balaban

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, marked his 10th anniversary in that post during record fiscal year, having been elected to the office in July, 1936, shortly after the company was reorganized under Section 77-B of the Federal Bankruptcy laws.

The company's estimated 1946 earnings include $4,840,000 representing

(*Continued on page 6*)

$2,100,000 Set as Goal for UJA Here

While Barney Balaban, national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal's motion picture division, was slated today to help in the organization of Cleveland's UJA industry drive at a dinner-meeting there, it was announced in New York yesterday that leaders of the film and allied industries have set a goal of $2,100,000 in the local metropolitan area.

Co-chairmen of the New York drive, which will get under way im-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Report Jersey Tax Bill to be Amended

TRENTON, April 7.—Indications that Assembly Bill No. 27, providing for new tax levies throughout New Jersey, will be amended so as to apply only to counties bordering on the Atlantic Ocean were reported to the Federation of New Jersey Theatres

(*Continued on page 7*)

Ascap Seat Tax Increase Is Hit by Allied

WASHINGTON, April 7.—Abram F. Myers, chairman and general counsel of Allied States, yesterday placed his organization squarely in opposition to Ascap's attempted increase of the motion picture theatre seat music tax. If Ascap persists in its attempts to raise the tax, Myers warned, the result in many states will be legislation to oust Ascap.

"Ascap is making a mistake in demanding an increase in royalties," Myers stated. "In the short pull there is very little we can do, but in the long pull it would be a disastrous move for Ascap."

Myers pointed out that both houses of the Indiana state legislature had recently passed a bill to bar Ascap from the state, with only one dissenting vote. The measure, however, was vetoed by the governor.

Many other states would follow such action, Myers said, if Ascap continues to push for a tax raise.

Strike Delays Spot Data, Field Reports

The industry had a full share of communication inconvenience and delay yesterday in consequence of the national strike by employes of American Telephone and Telegraph and the Bell System. Film companies are among the largest commercial users of long-distance telephone wires with numerous daily calls between studios and the home offices and to and from theatres and exchanges, concerning quick decisions and spot data.

The mechanically-operated dial

(*Continued on page 6*)

Trustees to Weigh International MPF

Motion Picture Foundation's trustees have included in the agenda of its first meeting, to be held here next month, deliberations on whether the Foundation should expand into an international industry welfare organization, a Foundation spokesman said here yesterday.

Recently, Canadian industry representatives who have been considering setting up in that country a similarly-constructed welfare organization, have communicated with the U. S. Foundation to explore the possibility of joining forces with it. The Foundation trustees will weigh this possibility.

Monogram In Deals Abroad

With a number of Monogram European distribution franchises due to expire this year, W. Ray Johnston, the company's board chairman will sail from New York on the S.S. *Queen Elizabeth* tomorrow for England for a three - and - a half - month survey of franchise operations in the United Kingdom and on the Continent to determine whether contracts will be renewed or whether Monogram will replace its franchises with self-operated branches.



W. Ray Johnston

(*Continued on page 7*)

Little Likelihood Seen of Truman Attending MPA's May 8 Dinner

Washington, April 7.—President Truman didn't give a flat "no" to the industry delegation inviting him to the Motion Picture Association's 25th anniversary dinner in New York, May 8, but he did indicate that it was pretty unlikely he'd be there.

President Truman told the industry leaders that his schedule at present made the New York dinner impossible, but suggested that MPA president Eric Johnston check with him again.

The delegation, which had a 15-minute interview at the White House yesterday noon, was composed of Johnston, Nicholas M. Schenck of Loew's, N. Peter Rathvon of RKO, and Barney Balaban of Paramount.

U. S. Opposed To a Stay for Arbitration

Presents Own Draft to Supreme Court; Bids In

WASHINGTON, April 7. — The Department of Justice today submitted to the U. S. Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed its proposed order postponing operation of certain portions of the industry's anti-trust decree, excluding arbitration, and in a separate letter to Justice Reed voiced strong objections to a delay in the abolition of the motion picture arbitration system.

The stay order draft and letter reached Justice Reed late this afternoon, paving the way for his decision in the near future.

All eight defendant distributors in the equity case already have asked a stay on arbitration and seven of them, 20th Century-Fox being the sole dissenter, would have all distribution portions of the New York Federal Court's decree, excepting that dealing with franchises, stayed. Twentieth-Fox filed a separate draft of an order which would stay bidding and arbitration alone.

The Justice Department's stay order

(*Continued on page 6*)

Dropping 'Cut-in' Clauses in Canada

TORONTO, April 7.—Following his induction as president of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association, Gordon Lightstone, general manager of Canadian Paramount, revealed that the major film companies will discard the Canadian license agreement which forms the industrial code for film rental contracts. The

(*Continued on page 7*)

WB Houses Resume Universal Newsreel

Indications that the product cancellation action which Warner Theatres took against Universal-International a few weeks ago would be only a more or less temporary move loomed large yesterday. A U-I spokesman discloses that Warners has resumed playing Universal Newsreel

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

ARTHUR B. KRIM, president of Eagle-Lion, will leave New York today for the Coast.

•

JOHN JOSEPH, national director of publicity-advertising for Universal-International, who suffered a broken heel bone injury in a fall several weeks ago, expects to return to the studio this week.

•

H. M. RICHEY, exhibitor relations head for M-G-M, returned to New York yesterday from Auburn, Ind., where he attended the funeral of his mother-in-law.

•

JACK H. LEVIN, vice-president and general manager of Confidential Reports, and JULES WILLING, head of branch operations, have returned here from Atlanta.

•

JERRY WALD, Warners' producer; DELMER DAVES, director, and DAVID GOODIS, writer, have returned to New York from Boston.

•

MICHAEL CURTIZ returned to the Coast from New York by plane at the weekend.

•

WALTER MIRISCH, Monogram producer, is in New York from the Coast.

NTS Sets Cleveland Meeting April 25-27

CLEVELAND, April 7.—National Theatre Supply Company will hold its first postwar district meeting at the Statler Hotel, here, on April 25-27, to be followed by a series of regional meetings.

Walter E. Green, president, will preside, and home office officials with him will be Oscar Oldknow and J. W. Servies. NTS managers attending will include: Clarence Williamson, Detroit; J. H. Kelly, Cincinnati; A. C. Schuyler, Des Moines; B. N. Peterson, Indianapolis; A. J. Larson, Milwaukee; W. C. Jervis, Pittsburgh; R. W. Dassow, Chicago; Frank Masek, Cleveland.

Candy Campaign in 34 Century Houses

For the first time in Century Theatres' sales drive history, the current campaign, which began last weekend for a 10-week period, is being conducted around the merchandising of candy and soft drink products at 34 Century theatres in this area, according to Leslie R. Schwartz, head of Andrews, Inc., Century's merchandising division.

Described as being unique in that it requires managers to point their showmanship in a slightly different direction while at the same time continuing their patron-drawing exploitation efforts, the drive is expected to give rise to new methods of merchandising.

Milliken Cited by MPA for His Work

On his recent retirement after 21 years as secretary of the Motion Picture Association, the president and the board of directors have passed a resolution citing C. E. Milliken, former Governor of Maine, on his accomplishments in the motion picture industry.

Buffalo Chain Seeks More Details in Suit

BUFFALO, April 7.—Federal Judge John Knight today reserved decision on a defense request that he order the Rivoli Operating Corp. to be "more specific and certain" in its complaint seeking $1,200,000 damages from the Buffalo Theatres, Inc., and nine production and distributing corporations.

On behalf of Buffalo Theatres, which operates the Shea Theatres, attorney Frank G. Raichle, Jr., said that a "factual statement" should be furnished by the plaintiff in support of its suit which arises from the Rivoli Corp.'s complaint that it is unable to get the pictures it wants.

Answering the request for additional facts, attorney Thomas C. McConnell asserted that the complaint was a complicated one "because we are dealing with a system of clearing pictures that is by its very nature complicated." He alleged that there exists in Buffalo "a price-fixing conspiracy to maintain a monopoly in the Shea Theatres." He charged that there was a "system whereby patronage is thrown into the downtown theatres at higher admissions by making it impossible for the independent to compete with the chain."

Subpoena E-K Books Of 10 Years Ago

BUFFALO, April 7.—Eastman-Kodak has been ordered to produce its records to aid in determining whether there has been an anti-trust law violation, according to a ruling by Federal Judge John Knight in which he upheld a Federal grand jury subpoena to inspect the firm's books. However, Judge Knight, in holding that E-K must present its accounts for the past 10 years, reduced from 25 years the period set originally in the subpoena.

Extend Filing Time In Jackson Suit

CHICAGO, April 7.—The U. S. Court of Appeals has granted a request of the defendants in the Jackson Park Theatre anti-trust case for extension of time for filing final briefs. Due April 11, distributor defendants and Balaban and Katz and Warner Theatres now have until May 1.

'Macomber' Openings

"The Macomber Affair," a Benedict Bogeaus production for United Artists release will open simultaneously in 13 cities starting Thursday.

Film Carrier Rates Go Up in Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY, April 7.—Increased film shipment rates will take effect here April 13, four leading motor express firms of the state announce.

The State Corporation Commission approved rate raises after exchanges here had voiced no objections. Several exhibitors had recommended that the commission set new rates to enable the truckers to continue service along past standards.

The major Oklahoma film carrier is Mistletoe Express Service, which operates trucks over 25,000 miles per day within the state. The company is a subsidiary of Oklahoma Publishing Co., which publishes daily newspapers here. Mistletoe's rate will be increased an average of 20 cents per 100 pounds, and returning films will no longer be handled at a 50 per cent discount. Minimum charges will jump from 30 cents to 50 cents per shipment. It will be the first rate increase in six years by the express firms.

Over 100 Previews Set for 'Cheyenne'

DENVER, April 7.—More than 100 pre-release showings of "Cheyenne," Warner film, are being arranged in the Denver-Salt Lake City territories for late next month coincident with the world premiere in Cheyenne.

The plan, initiated by Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity, calls for the premiere on May 22 at Fox's Lincoln Theatre, Cheyenne, followed by scores of day-and-date engagements in Fox Intermountain, Paramount, Gibraltar and other circuits and independent houses. Working on the campaign are Abe Kronenberg of Warner special events department and Richard Stephens, Western field representative.

Gamble Off Today On Monarch Tour

Ted R. Gamble, owner and president of Monarch Theatres, and Mrs. Gamble, partner in the operation of the circuit, will leave New York today for a swing around the circuit in Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Also, they will be the guests of Fred Dolle and E. H. Long, Louisville circuit operators, in that city on Saturday. On that evening, Gamble will address a meeting at the Brown Hotel, Louisville, which will mark the conclusion of Kentucky's "Army Week." He will be back in New York in about three weeks.

'Roosevelt' Premiere At Globe Delayed

The premiere of "The Roosevelt Story" at the Globe Theatre on April 12 has been postponed due to laboratory difficulties encountered in processing the prints with sepia tone. Preparations included the formal hostessing by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. Due to the postponement the date at the Globe will be taken by another production.

NEW YORK THEATRES

FRANK BORZAGE'S
fast moving drama of love and excitement
"THAT'S MY MAN"
Starring
Don AMECHE • Catherine McLEOD
with
Roscoe KARNS Kitty IRISH
John RIDGELY Joe FRISCO
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Brandt's GLOBE B'WAY & 46th ST.

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
RONALD COLMAN in
'THE LATE GEORGE APLEY'
Introducing PEGGY CUMMINS
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
THE MUSIC HALL'S GREAT EASTER STAGE SHOW

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
Laraine DAY • Brian AHERNE
Robert MITCHUM-Gene RAYMOND
'THE LOCKET' AN RKO RADIO PICTURE

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st B'way Showing!
WALLACE BEERY
'The MIGHTY McGURK'
IN PERSON
MICKEY ROONEY
LOUIS BASIL & LOEW'S STATESMEN
plus OTHERS

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTEN • ETHEL BARRYMORE
in
"The Farmer's Daughter"
An RKO Radio Picture
A DORE SCHARY Production
RIVOLI
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.
B'way at 49th St.

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

BOB HOPE
DOROTHY LAMOUR
in PARAMOUNT'S
"My Favorite Brunette"
with PETER LORRE LON CHANEY
in Person!
JIMMY DORSEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PAT HENNING · KAY STARR
LOUIS JORDAN AND HIS TYMPANY FIVE
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING

OF



SHIRLEY TEMPLE
FRANCHOT TONE · GUY MADISON

in

Honeymoon

A WILLIAM KEIGHLEY PICTURE

with

LINA ROMAY · GENE LOCKHART
CORINNA MURA · GRANT MITCHELL

Produced by WARREN DUFF • Directed by WILLIAM KEIGHLEY
Screen Play by MICHAEL KANIN • Based on a Story by VICKI BAUM

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at 10:30 A.M. SHARP

RKO RADIO PICTURES



Box

Republic's Great Money Hit!

JOHN WAYNE'S



JOHN WAYNE · GAIL RUSSE

Angel and the BADMAN

with

HARRY CAREY · BRUCE CABOT

IRENE RICH · TOM POWERS

Written and Directed by

James Edward Grant · JOHN WAYNE

A Production

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

ffice Angel!

NEW YORK . . . . . Hold Over 5th Week
SAN FRANCISCO . . Hold Over 3 Weeks
BALTIMORE . . . . . Hold Over 3 Weeks
NEW ORLEANS . . . Move Over 3 Weeks
CHARLOTTE . . . . . Move Over 2 Weeks
PORTLAND, Ore. . . Hold Over 2 Weeks
BOSTON . . . . . Move Over 3 Weeks
OAKLAND . . . . . Move Over 2 Weeks
OKLAHOMA CITY . Move Over 2 Weeks
DENVER . . . . . Move Over 2 Weeks
ST. LOUIS . . . . . Hold Over 2 Weeks
MILWAUKEE . . . . . Hold Over 2 Weeks
KANSAS CITY . . . . . Sensational 3 Theatre Premiere
HOUSTON . . . . . Terrific Opening Business

REPUBLIC PICTURES

FIRST PRODUCER-STAR PICTURE



U. S. Opposed

(*Continued from page* 1)

would grant postponement of three paragraphs of Section 2 of the decree; the injunctions against block booking and arbitrary refusal of an exhibitor's demand for a run which he requests, and the mandate compelling competitive bidding.

Its objections to a stay of any of the other parts of the decree dealing with distribution also were incorporated in the Department's comments to Justice Reed.

Thus, along with arbitration, the Department's stay order would not include: minimum admission price fixing; agreements on systems of clearances; clearance between theatres not in substantial competition; the injunction against "clearance against theatres in substantial competition with the theatre receiving the license for exhibition in excess of what is reasonably necessary to protect the licensee in the run granted."

Also, the injunctions against franchises, formula deals and master agreements; the licensing of one feature as conditioned by the licensing of another, and the dictate that 20 per cent cancellation privilege be given an exhibitor for films licensed before trade shown.

UJA Goal

(*Continued from page* 1)

mediately, are Matthew Fox, Billy Rose, Richard Rodgers and Emil Friedlander. Organization of committees has begun.

Characterized as "an unprecedented quota" in the New York industry's history, the $2,100,00 goal for 1947 is double last year's local net of $1,013,000. The 1946 figure included a sum of almost $200,000 raised for the Joint Defense Appeal of the Anti-Defamation League. With the Joint Defense Appeal part of the UJA drive this year, the goal for the industry here is more than twice the combined amount attained jointly by the UJA and J.D.A. National goal of the UJA is $170,000,000, of which $65,000,000 is to be raised in New York.

Others attending the New York meeting were: Si Fabian, Jack Cohn, Harry Brandt, Leonard Goldenson, Sam Rinzler, Harry Kalmine, Leopold Friedman, Malcolm Kingsberg, Lou Novins, Herman Robbins, Max Cohen, Arthur Israel, Jr., and Sam Shain. Shain and Novins will accompany Balaban to Cleveland and then to Detroit for a meeting tomorrow night.

Telephone Strike

(*Continued from page* 1)

system allowed for uninterrupted local service.

Western Union telegrams were found to be adequate substitutes, at first, although as the day went on, heavy volume of messages caused much delay in delivery.

Gross reports, booking dates and other data from the field which in many cases would ordinarily be given to home offices by telephone, were transmitted by Western Union. At Paramount it was said the decentralized nature of its theatre operations made quick contact with the home office unnecessary. Only a few telegrams from theatres were received by that company.

NSS Now Handling E-L Press Books

National Screen Service has taken over distribution of Eagle-Lion press books and other printed matter in its 30-odd branch offices in the United States. NSS has been serving PRC in a similar capacity.

WB Houses Resume

(*Continued from page* 1)

in its theatres generally, and that U-I product continues to be shown in a large number of Warner houses across the nation.

The ill-feeling that arose between the two companies when U-I signed former Warner director-writer Robert Buckner when his contract with Warners was about to expire, appears to have tapered off toward resumption of normal business operations, the U-I spokesman indicated. Warners objected to the U-I signing of Buckner by cancelling that company's product out of its theatres.

Hardly had Warners taken the product cancellation action when U-I salesmen in the field were instructed to close outside product deals. Two major countermoves on U-I's part were to obtain a commitment from Fox-West Coast Theatres for future bookings, and to secure a commitment from William Goldman's circuit in Philadelphia to bid on U-I product, according to reports from both of those points. U-I declined to take any legal action against the WB move, however.

Paramount Net

(*Continued from page* 1)

Paramount's interest in undistributed earnings for the year of theatre affiliates. The result compares with earnings of $17,952,432 in 1945, which included $2,527,000 of undistributed earnings of partially owned subsidiaries.

Paramount earnings for the 14 weeks ended Jan. 4, 1947, are estimated at $10,163,000, which compares with $4,111,000 for the corresponding quarter (13 weeks) of 1945.

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Cocktail parties, luncheons and dinners served in this versatile room — setting a gay mood for a favorable reaction to your film.
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Tel.: PL. 5-3400 Michael J. McGrath, Mgr.

Republic Regional In Chicago Today

CHICAGO, April 7.—James R. Grainger, Republic executive vice-president in charge of sales and distribution, will preside at the first session of a two-day sales conference to be held here tomorrow and Wednesday at the Hotel Blackstone. This will be the second in the current series of company regionals, the first of which was held last week in New York City.

Herbert J. Yates, company president, will address the meeting, which is being attended by his executive assistant William Martin Saal; Edward L. Walton, assistant general sales manager and Western division manager; and Walter L. Titus, Jr., Southern division manager.

Southern district manager Merritt Davis heads a contingent which includes branch managers James Hobbs, Atlanta; J. H. Dillon, Charlotte; Leo V. Seichshnaydre, New Orleans; Harold Laird, Tampa. Norman J. Colquhoun, Southwestern district manager, heads a group of managers which includes Thomas Kirk, Dallas; Nat Wyse, Memphis; David Hunt, Oklahoma City. Prairie district manager Nat E. Steinberg heads a contingent including managers J. J. Houlihan, St. Louis; Dave Nelson, Des Moines; Robert F. Withers, Kansas City; Harry Lefholtz, Omaha. Representation from the Midwestern district is headed by district manager Will Baker, with managers E. H. Brauer, Indianapolis; Jack Frackman, Milwaukee; Joseph Loeffler, Minneapolis, present. Carl Ponedel, company branch manager in Mexico City, will also attend.

The third and final meeting has been set for Wednesday and Thursday, April 16-17, at the company's Hollywood Studios.

Canadian 'Cut-in'

(*Continued from page* 1)

step will be taken at the end of the trade year next August.

The Canadian license agreement was back of a sharp controversy which developed last September when circuits and individual exhibitors staged a holdout against new contracts containing a revised clause "cut-in" providing for a percentage to distributors on candy machine and other subsidiary theatre revenue during the engagement of percentage features.

A lengthy stalemate during which season contracts were not signed was followed by the announcement that the distributing companies would deal individually with exhibitors on percentage terms.

Minnesota Gets 20% Ticket Tax Proposal

MINNEAPOLIS, April 7.—A third proposal for a 20 per cent levy on admission tickets has been placed in the hopper in the Minnesota legislature. Rep. Carl Lyse, Minneapolis, is author of a new bill, which is a straight revenue measure and would tax all forms of entertainment, including amateur sports. Lyse last week also introduced a daylight savings bill to be operative from May through August.

First 20 per cent levy proposals came from Gov. Youngdahl in his overall revenue-raising measure, and the second was a measure attached to the veterans' bonus bill. North Central Allied is lining up opposition to the new measure, as it has done on the two previous proposals.

Censor Bill Shows Up in Missouri

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., April 7.—A bill to create a state board of censors for "films, reels or views," including slides, has been introduced in the house as Bill No. 369. One section states that the board "shall approve such films, reels or views which are moral and proper; and shall disapprove as sacrilegious, obscene, indecent or immoral, or such as tend in the judgment of the board to debase or corrupt morals. This section shall not apply to announcement or advertising slides, or to films or reels containing current news events, commonly known as newsreels, which are not in violation of the provisions of this section."

Delaware Censor Bill Dies in Committee

WASHINGTON, April 7.—A proposed Delaware film censorship bill and several tax bills which would have affected theatres, died in committee when the Delaware legislature adjourned, according to Jack Bryson, Motion Picture Association legislative representative.

New Jersey

(*Continued from page* 1)

in session at the Stacey Trent Hotel here today.

The amendment is believed to be one result of the theatre owners' campaign against the measure. However, the fight will be continued regardless, the meeting decided, as the Federation is opposed to any additional taxes anywhere in the state.

George Gold, Federation chairman, reported that letters and briefs in opposition to the tax were being sent to all members of the legislature.

Monogram Meeting Here This Weekend

Morey Goldenstein, Monogram general sales manager, will preside at a regional sales meeting of Eastern branches on Saturday and Sunday at the Warwick Hotel, New York.

The agenda will include discussions on the merchandising and releasing of Roy Del Ruth's "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," first top release of the newly-formed Allied Artists Productions, and a review of current sales.

Heading the home office contingent will be Ed Morey, vice-president and executive assistant to president Steve Broidy; Arthur Greenblatt, Eastern sales manager, and Herman Rifkin, Monogram franchise holder in Boston. Branch managers from Albany, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Washington, Pittsburgh, Boston, New Haven, New York, and Philadelphia exchanges will attend.

Concurrently with the New York meeting, Jack Schlaifer, Monogram director of sales, will conduct a similar meeting with the Mid-Western branches at the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago. In attendance there will be branch managers from the Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Oklahoma City, Omaha, Des Moines, Kansas City, St. Louis, Detroit, Indianapolis, Salt Lake City, Denver and Dallas exchanges. Assisting Schlaifer in conducting the latter meeting will be Sol Francis, Mid-Western district manager.

Claim $24,000 'Egg' Record

Universal-International claimed here yesterday that "The Egg and I" set a new Saturday and Sunday record at Keith's Theatre in Cincinnati with a gross of $24,000 expected for the full week. A new Sunday mark was set at the Uptown, Esquire and Fairway Theatres in Kansas City with a $25,000 gross, U-I added.

'Egg' Premiere in South

CHARLOTTE, April 7.—"The Egg and I" will have its Southern premiere at the opening of the new Manor Theatre here on April 1.

Mono. Deals Abroad

(*Continued from page* 1)

Johnston, who disclosed the purpose of his trip, here, yesterday, said the company's European franchise operations have been highly successful for several years. Before these would be replaced with company operated-branches, he explained, the company must satisfy itself that even greater success would be met with thereby. Among countries he will visit are France, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, Denmark and possibly Sweden. About mid-July Monogram president Steve Broidy and Monogram - International president Norton V. Ritchey will join Johnston in London where, during the latter part of that month, Monogram's first international sales convention since the beginning of the war will be held.

MIAMI, April 7.—Steve Broidy, president of Monogram and Allied Artists, left yesterday by train for New York following the world premiere here of Roy Del Ruth's "It Happened on Fifth Avenue" at the Capitol and Tower theatres last Saturday. He will attend the Texas premiere of the film at San Antonio on April 17.



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FILMACK gives QUICKEST SERVICE on SPECIAL TRAILERS

Holiday Spurs N.Y. 1st-Run Business; $50,000 to 'Carrolls'

The holiday weekend, balmy weather, a heavy influx of visitors and the school vacation period all combine to give many New York first-runs their most spirited business in months.

Although rain checked business to some extent on Saturday, Sunday income was particularly heavy and continued big yesterday. Extra performances are scheduled in some theatres during the current week.

"The Two Mrs. Carrolls" provided the Hollywood with record Sunday business, reaching more than $10,000, which, with $9,000 brought in Saturday, points to a very robust $50,000 for an initial week.

The Music Hall is enjoying its biggest Easter week on record with "The Late George Apley" and a stage presentation figured to gross a huge $154,000. The show, now in its third week, and opening early to allow for six showings of the picture instead of the usual five, plus five rather than four stage show performances, grossed a high $90,500 Thursday through Sunday.

'Stallion' Spirited

"Stallion Road," at the Strand, playing with Cab Calloway's orchestra on the stage, opened spiritedly with $32,000 for the first three days; it promises to wind up the week with a very healthy $65,000. An additional daily showing of the picture has been scheduled here too.

At the Paramount, "My Favorite Brunette" and Jimmy Dorsey's orchestra are still attracting crowds. Business for the third week is put at $100,000, a top bracket; the theatre opens at 8:30 A.M. and one extra screening is offered.

"The Adventuress" is likely to give the Victoria a very favorable $24,000 in its first week, while another newcomer, a reissue of "Boom Town" at the Rialto, is proportionately good with $10,000 indicated for the week.

The Globe is looking for a healthy $25,000 gross for the first week of "That's My Man" and the Gotham is doing splendidly with "Tarzan and the Huntress" which apparently will roll up $25,000 in its first week. The second week of "Johnny O'Clock" seems good for $31,000 at the Criterion.

Capitol and Rivoli Good

At the Capitol, the third week of "It Happened in Brooklyn," with Sammy Kaye's orchestra, promises to bring in a good $52,000. At the Rivoli, "The Farmer's Daughter" is on its way to a nice $31,000 for a third week.

"Carnival in Costa Rica" and a stage show headed by Connee Boswell and Jackie Miles brought the Roxy $54,000 Wednesday through Sunday, indicating $82,000, which is good business, for a second week. The third week of "The Locket" at the Palace is disappointing, the gross being estimated at $15,000; the film will make way for "Trail Street" tomorrow.

"Best Years of Our Lives" continues to draw top money at the Astor, the 20th week's estimate being $46,000. At the Winter Garden, "Stairway to Heaven" has a fairly substantial $20,000 in view for a fourth week, while "Time Out of Mind" gave the Park, playing on a reserved seat basis at $2.40 top, a gross of $5,000 in four performances on Saturday and three on Sunday.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

Grosses are spotty, although somewhat ahead of last week, with a few new arrivals headed for plus-average figures. The weekend weather was warm with scattered showers. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 8-11:

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (40c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.40-$1.50) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average regular prices of 50c-60c-65c-70c-75c: $10,000)

HARD BOILED MAHONEY (Mono.) and 'NEATH CANADIAN SKIES (Screen Guild Prod.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $1,700. (Average: $1,600).

DEVIL BAT'S DAUGHTER (PRC) and THE MAD MONSTER (PRC reissue)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Gross: $1,100. (Average: $1,100)

PURSUED (WB)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $7,500)

MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY (Col.) and MILLIE'S DAUGHTER (Col.) — RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

LOVE LAUGHS AT ANDY HARDY (M-G-M)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE RED HOUSE (UA)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000)

ATLANTA

Business is somewhat better this week. Weather is rainy. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 9:

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—FOX (4,661) (30c-50c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $13,000)

THE PRISONER OF ZENDA (Kay reissue) — PARAMOUNT (2,447) (30c-50c). Gross: $8,300. (Average: $8,300)

ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.)—ROXY, 2nd week on a moveover from the Fox (2,446) (30c-50c). Gross: $5,800. (Average: $5,600)

HOME IN OKLAHOMA (Rep.) and LAST CROOKED MILE (Rep.)—CAPITAL (2,446) (30c-44c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,200).

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (30c-50c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

BALTIMORE

Although fairly strong attractions are offered locally, they failed to get big opening crowds. Managers claim the holiday weekend was more of a drawback than a help to boxoffices. Some of the slump, however, is expected to be picked up during the week; holiday prices on Monday proved beneficial. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 10:

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c and 56c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $14,000)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $12,000)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (28c-40c-50c-58c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000)

PURSUED (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-47c-50c-58c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,500)

JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.) — HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-59c) 7 days, with a stage show. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $17,500)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (Advanced admission prices: 75c-$1.25) 7 days, 3rd week. (Average: $20,000). (Average at regular prices of 35c-65c: $14,000)

THE RED HOUSE (UA)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,500)

IT HAPPENED AT THE INN (M-G-M reissue)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,000)

THIEF OF BAGDAD (Film Classics)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-36c-46c-54c and 56c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $4,500)

Hold Annual Meeting On Studio Affairs

Studio and home office officials participated in a general discussion of studio activities here yesterday in an annual meeting which usually is held on the Coast. No decisions were made at the meeting, which was devoted to a discussion of studio affairs alone.

Disney Signs with SCG

HOLLYWOOD, April 7.—The Disney Studio and the Screen Cartoonists' Guild have signed a new contract which provides severance pay and wage adjustments for workers in five classifications in the lower brackets.

Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux" will have its premiere at the Broadway Theatre Friday evening. Prices will run to a maximum of $1.50 generally, it is understood, with 250 mezzanine seats to be reserved at $1.80 for matinees and $2.40 for evenings.

Set "Other Love"

The first Enterprise picture to arrive on Broadway will be "The Other Love," it was announced by United Artists, which is releasing the film, having its American premiere on April 30 at the Rivoli Theatre.

Some Admissions Are Holding the Line

TORONTO, April 7.—While prices were raised in ace houses for the holidays at the Easter weekend by Famous Players Canadian Corp. as well as for its theatres in cities and towns other than Toronto, the impression has been corrected that higher scales have been permanently adopted for first-line theatres in Toronto.

However, upward revision has been made in the case of many subsequent-run theatres here and at theatres outside of Toronto.

Richard Foy, Son Of Comedian, Dies

DALLAS, April 7.—Richard E. Foy, manager of the Palace Theatre here, died on Friday of a cerebral hemorrhage. Foy was the son of vaudeville comedian Eddie Foy and the brother of film producer Bryan Foy and actor Eddie Foy, Jr. He is also survived by two other brothers and two sisters.

Foy will be buried in New Rochelle, N. Y., where he grew up. He was manager of five Interstate theatres since coming to Texas just 15 years ago.



FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 69 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1947 TEN CENTS

Order Is Signed Staying Major Decree Provisions

Justice Reed Grants Defendants' Order as Presented; Also Permits Limited Stay Asked by 20th-Fox; Appeals Deadline May 20

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, April 8.—Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed has formally signed the orders staying major provisions of the New York Federal court decree in the industry anti-trust suit which were presented to him by seven major defendants, on the one hand, and by 20th Century-Fox separately.

The stays will remain in effect until the Supreme Court has decided appeals from the New York court's judgment which, according to present estimates, may not be until next winter or spring.

Entry of the stay orders confirms MOTION PICTURE DAILY's exclusive story of March 31, which reported that the stay had been authorized for most phases of the decree scheduled to have become effective on April 1, and for competitive bidding, effective July 1. In the interim, defense attorneys endeavored to agree on the portions of the decree to be covered by the stay.

The order signed by Justice Reed yesterday for Loew's, Paramount, RKO, Columbia, United Artists, Universal and Warners covers all points of the decree listed in MOTION PICTURE DAILY's March 31 story, foremost among which are a stay of competitive bidding and of the New York court's order terminating industry arbitration.

Those two provisions are all that were requested by 20th Century-Fox in its separate order. The other seven companies asked for, and were grant-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Complete Text of Decree Stay Order

Washington, April 8. — Complete text of the order staying the New York Federal court decree provisions pending determination of appeals therefrom by the U. S. Supreme Court follows.

"It appearing that a final decree was entered in the above-entitled causes by the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of New York on December 31, 1946, and it further appearing that the plaintiff and all of the defendants and certain parties who sought leave to intervene have noted appeals to this court from said decree,

"Now, upon consideration of the applications of the defendants and certain of the parties who sought leave to intervene, and after hearing oral argument thereon, it is ordered that the enforcement of the provisions of Sub-

(*Continued on page 6*)

UA Gets Five Houses; May Go for Others

Board Also Authorizes Deals for Eight Films

Indications that United Artists is embarking on a theatre acquisition program were seen here yesterday as co-owner Mary Pickford revealed that five houses already have been acquired by the company. Miss Pickford refused to divulge details other than that the five properties were obtained some time ago.

Miss Pickford attended a board meeting here yesterday which she described as "routine." The meeting did authorize management to conclude deals with producer Sam Coslow for the distribution of five musicals, each said to be budgeted in excess of $1,500,000. It agreed to a releasing pact with Edward Small for two films, starring Robert Young, to be delivered in 18 months, and authorized a distribution agreement with a company in which Edward Gross is associate producer, this to be for one picture to cost, reportedly, $2,000,000.

Miss Pickford said that Arthur Kelly in all likelihood will not join

(*Continued on page 6*)

J. A. Wolfe Is Named Treasurer of NSS

Joseph A. Wolfe, comptroller of National Screen Service, has been elected treasurer by the board of directors, Herman Robbins, president of the company announced here yesterday.

Wolfe joined NSS in 1944 as chief accountant and was named comptroller one year later. He was previously connected with the U. S. Treasury Department.

NSS Convention in Chicago April 17-19

An international sales convention will be held by National Screen Service at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, April 17-19. Herman Robbins, president, will head the list of company officials field personnel attending. Representatives from London will also be on hand.

U-I Promotion Meet To Open Tomorrow

Maurice A. Bergman, Universal-International's Eastern advertising-publicity director, will preside at a two-day meeting of the company's field promotion staff from East of the Rockies, starting tomorrow, at the Hotel Astor, here.



Maurice Bergman

Highlighted at the meetings—which are described as being in keeping with a new U-I policy of close coordination between home office advertising-publicity - promotion departments and field exploitation representatives—will be promotional plans for U-I's releases for the next four months. The meetings, first on new overall publicity-advertising plans of the Eastern division since the Universal-International merger and affiliation

(*Continued on page 6*)

Paramount's Coast Meeting May 6-9

Paramount executives and theatre partners will gather in Arrowhead Springs, Cal., May 6-9 inclusive, for further discussion of all phases of the New York Federal Court decision in the industry anti-trust suit, Leonard H. Goldenson, the company's vice-president in charge of theatre operations, disclosed here yesterday.

Among home office executives present in addition to Goldenson will be Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures; Austin C. Keough, vice-president in charge of legal affairs; Edward L. Hyman, Leon D. Netter and Robert Weitman, vice-presidents of Paramount Theatres Service Corp.; Montague Gowthorpe, its treasurer, Walter Gross of the legal staff, and Max Fellerman, J. J. Deitch and Hal Pereira.

The meeting follows an earlier series in Miami on the same subject.

Republic to Make More Features

CHICAGO, April 8. — Republic will continue making "B" pictures, although the exact number is not known, Herbert J. Yates, Republic president, disclosed at the first day of a two-day regional meeting being held at the Blackstone Hotel here. Yates also told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that Republic will make more features for 1947-48 than this year. He stated that a definite product announcement will be made in May.

(*Continued on page 6*)

20th-Fox Continues Bids, Gehring Says

CHICAGO, April 8.—Twentieth Century-Fox will continue competitive negotiations because it has proven to be the most satisfactory way to settle disputes between exhibitors," William C. Gehring, Central sales manager, said here yesterday soon after his arrival for a week's conference with his district managers.

Gehring said that 20th Century-Fox is now conducting competitive

(*Continued on page 6*)

Roach in N. Y. for Distribution Deal

Although Hal Roach Studios has a three-year pact with United Artists for distribution of its new two-part comedy series, developments indicate that U.A. may not necessarily distribute the separable "features."

Emphasizing that he plans to sell the productions on a dual feature basis, Roach explained here yesterday that while there is a strong probability that U.A. will handle the "Hal Roach Comedy Carnival," the purpose of his trip here is to screen the first dual, consisting of "Curley" and "Fabulous Joe," for all interested companies.

Costing about $500,000 for each half of the package, or $1,000,000 for the dual feature, Roach explained that his plan allows flexibility for the exhibitor because together the two parts could constitute a program for a single-feature house or, split apart, could furnish companion films at a double-feature theatre, to be run at the exhibitor's convenience.

His contract with U.A. calls for delivery of six to 12 films a year, but for the next two years, Roach said, his company will probably make about eight annually. The second dual, for which an over-all title has not yet been selected, has been finished, including "Here Comes Trouble" and "Who Killed Doc Robbin?" All of them will be in Cinecolor, Roach said.

Negotiations are pending with a wide range of radio and film talent for future productions, Roach disclosed, including Edgar Bergen, Fibber McGee and Molly and Jack Benny.

Balaban Honored at Cleveland Dinner

CLEVELAND, April 8.—Barney Balaban, national chairman of the motion picture division of the United Jewish Appeal was honored by leaders of the amusement and other industries here at a dinner at the Oakland Country Club tonight.

This afternoon an organizational luncheon of the amusement division was held under the chairmanship of Joseph Berne, local theatre owner; Nat Wolf of Warner Brothers; and Myer Fine, exhibitor leader. Fine was again selected to head the UJA drive here, with Wolf as his assistant.

Accompanying Balaban here from New York were Lou Novins of Paramount, Sam Shain of 20th Century-Fox, and Peter Colwin, UJA trade division director. They will also go with Balaban to Detroit tomorrow, when he will address industry leaders at a Variety Club dinner.

Also at today's meeting here were: Nate Schultz, Sam Schultz, D. L. Halper, Tony Stern, Louis Ratner, Sol Friefield, Jerry Wechler, Jack Shulman, John Kalafat, Leo Greenberger, Sam Greenberger and Dave Polster.

Opera Film Here

"The Barber of Seville," based on the opera, will have its premiere at the Golden Theatre, here, on May 5.

Personal Mention

ROBERT W. COYNE, executive director of the American Theatres Association, is visiting his home in Maine and will return to. New York on Friday.

•

LEONARD FIELD, vice-president of the Pioneer Theatre Corp., Minneapolis, is producing "Virginia Reel," by John and Harriett Weaver, for the Experimental Theatre, here. The play will open Sunday.

•

LILLIE MESSINGER has assumed her new duties as exceutive production aide to LEO SPITZ and WILLIAM GOETZ at Universal-International's Coast studios.

•

MANNY REINER, Selznick Releasing Organization sales representative, has arrived in Havana from Mexico City on the first leg of a swing around the Caribbean area.

•

WILLIAM J. DEVANEY, M-G-M assistant branch manager in Chicago, is here for a vacation.

•

JAMES E. COSTON, Warner Circuit zone manager in Chicago, is visiting New York.

•

ALFRED W. SCHWALBERG, vice-president and sales manager of Eagle-Lion, will leave here today for Hollywood.

•

PAUL BRODER, president of Broder Releasing Corp., has returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

NORMAN ELSON, vice-president of Trans-Lux Theatres, has returned to New York from Mexico City.

•

MAURICE WOLF, M-G-M district manager, returned to Boston yesterday after two days in New York.

LESTER COWAN, producer, arrived here from Hollywood yesterday.

•

WILLIAM HURWORTH, Paramount International's general sales manager for Australia and New Zealand, and STANLEY H. CRAIG, manager in New Zealand, are expected in New York early next month.

•

DANIEL GRISSO, recently discharged from military service, has resumed as manager of Chakeres' Princess Theatre, Springfield, O., succeeding HARRY ELLIOTT, who will take charge of another of the circuit's houses.

•

RUDOLPH WEISS, head of the Warner Brothers Theatres real estate department, and MILES ALBEN, circuit executive, will leave New York for Washington today.

•

MAX WOLFF, head of the Loew-M-G-M purchasing department, has returned here from a Miami and Havana vacation.

•

HAROLD L. GROVES, national field director of Confidential Reports, has returned to New York from a tour of the company's branch offices.

•

ED PELINAN has resigned as manager of the Daly Plainfield Theatre in Plainfield, Conn.

•

CLIFF ALMY, Warner supervisior for the Philippines and Japan, has returned to Manila from the Coast.

•

CAROL BRANDT, Eastern story head of M-G-M, has returned to New York from the Coast.

•

ANN SHERIDAN is here from Hollywood.

RKO's "Trail Street" Has Unique Opening

Premiere of RKO Radio's "Trail Street" at the Palace Theatre here today will be marked by a combination of "Gay Nineties" and "Wild West" promotions. On the stage will appear at 2:30 P.M. and 9:00, Bill Hardy's revue from the night club "Bill's Gay Nineties."

For the engagement, Ray Connor, manager of the Palace, has decorated the box-office to resemble the front of a covered wagon. Usherettes are to be dressed in Western costumes and on display in the lobby will be a "Club 21" Western saddle.

Baldwin Citation Today

Ted Baldwin, promotion-exploitation manager of the Selznick Releasing Organization will be one of 16 who today will receive American Public Relations Association's awards for meritorious public relations performances, at the second luncheon-meeting in the association's current three-day convention at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here. Baldwin will be cited for his promotional activities for "Duel in the Sun."

Truman Lauds Films In Tribute to AMPA

President Truman pays tribute to the industry and the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers in a letter noting the 30th Anniversary of the organization just received by Rutgers Neilson, president of AMPA.

Truman mentioned the contribution made by the industry press representatives in the development of motion pictures.

Rosenfeld to Herald As Sales Manager

Jack Rosenfeld, veteran theatre and film executive, has joined Herald Pictures as sales manager. The company's first release, "Boy! What a Girl!" will have its premiere at the Howard Theatre in Brooklyn later this week.

Small To Produce Two

Edward Small will produce two for Columbia. First will be Alexandre Dumas' "D'Artagnan," and the next will be "The Black Arrow," adaptation of the Robert Louis Stevenson novel.

Newsreel Parade

THE nation's observance of Easter, the telephone strike, and President Truman's speech on world peace are among items spotlighted in current newsreels. Other subjects include the Royal Family on tour, John L. Lewis and the mine disaster, and assorted sports. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 64—President asks for a strong U. S. to meet responsibilities. Telephone strike cuts service in entire nation. Nation observes Easter. Royal family visits Zulus. Air power demonstrated at Fort Bennington, Ga. North American figure skating championships.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 262—Telephone strike of 300,000 begins throughout the nation. Air force in parachute demonstration. Truman urges action to guard world peace. Easter echoes across the U. S. Wild Zulu tribes hail Royal family. Opening at Jamaica. Barbara Ann Scott wins again.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 65—Demaret wins golf title. French blow up Siegfried line alcove. Howard Hughes in successful test flight. French actress Corinne Calvet says "Voila! Hollywood!" DeGaulle leads tribute to commandos. Safety strike brings new coal crisis. Zululand gives Royal family big ovation.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 67—DeGaulle hailed. Man who shot Mussolini. Zulu dances for Royal family. John L. Lewis testifies.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 28—From Coast to Coast Americans attend Easter services. 300,000 telephone workers begin strike. John L. Lewis blasts government for mine disasters. Gandhi confers with Viscount Mountbatten at New Delhi. Train wreck kills two and injures scores. Royal family hailed by Zulus. Jamaica racetrack opens in heavy downpour.

U-I May Distribute Sennett Re-Issues

Universal-International is considering handling distribution of 26 old Mack Sennett short, silent comedies, but no decision will be made before U-I's Dallas office reports on field tests to be conducted there. J. J. Balaber, local producer, now owns the rights to about 150 Sennett two-reelers produced for Pathe between 1922 and 1928, of which he has selected 26 for the series, "Nickelodeon Chuckles."

To be issued as single subjects with such comedians as Harry Langdon, Andy Clyde, Marie Prevost and Ben Turpin, the series is being redone with sound effects, music and commentaries. Jerry Colonna, it is understood, will probably do the commentary on some of the films, which will also have foreign language commentaries. "When a Man's a Prince," a 15-minute film with Ben Turpin, is to be the first of the series; it is completed.

Discuss Film Unit Here

Details of a non-profit film center to produce and distribute non-theatrical films, will be revealed here today at a press conference by Robert Delson, former counsel of Republic Pictures, and chairman of the center's executive committee.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies. 10c.

"THIS IS THE YEAR OF THE YEARLING!"



ALL AMERICA AGREES...

Launched by an intensive Giant national advertising and promotion campaign in Magazines, Newspapers, Radio and Truck Posters, M-G-M's "The Yearling" will reach an estimated total of 1,561,000,000 impressions.

In Chicago it broke the M-G-M record for the house, running for 7 big weeks at the State-Lake Theatre. And now watch it repeat next in Houston, Washington, D. C., Cleveland, Portland.

Goetz, Morros and Clayton Sail Today

Ben Goetz, head of M-G-M production in Great Britain, and his wife; Boris Morros, "Carnegie Hall" producer, and his wife; and Hal Wallis, Joseph Hazen and Lewis Allen will sail for England this afternoon aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

Also departing for Europe are U. S. Under Secretary of State William L. Clayton, chairman of the U. S. delegation to the International Trade Organization conference which will open in Geneva tomorrow, and his wife. Clayton, on leaving Washington for New York, yesterday expressed optimism for U. S. efforts to lower trade barriers.

Morros, who expects to fly back to New York in about a week, will confer with J. Arthur Rank on details of the London release of his film, which is being distributed by United Artists. Goetz is due to return here in six weeks for another visit to M-G-M's Culver City studio. In addition to Beatrice Lillie, musical comedy star who will appear in a picture for Samuel Goldwyn this year, and David Coplan, the six British winners of Paramount's sales quota drive in England will return home after having visited New York, Chicago, Hollywood, San Francisco and Montreal.

Lapidus in Boston For Sales Meeting

Jules Lapidus, Warner's Eastern division sales manager, will hold the first in a series of territorial meetings for the company's 1947 sales drive in Boston today. The drive will run from April 27 to July 26. Norman Ayers, Southern sales manager, also left New York yesterday for meetings in Charlotte and Atlanta, with branch managers Ralph J. Iannuzzi and W. O. Williamson, Jr., respectively.

Attending the Boston meeting will be: Sam Lefkowitz, district manager; W. W. Brumberg, field exploitation manager and captain of the sales drive; and branch managers George W. Horan, Boston; Clarence Eiseman, New York; Carl Goe, New Haven; Ray S. Smith, Albany; E. A. Catlin, Buffalo. Field man Art Moger also will attend.

Bryan Foy Here for Brother's Funeral

Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of production at Eagle-Lion Studios, arrived in New York yesterday from Hollywood to attend the funeral of his brother, Richard E. Foy, who died last Friday in Dallas. Foy was accompanied East by his brothers Irving and Charles, and his sisters, Mrs. Mary Litell and Madeleine (Mrs. William) O'Donnell. In New York, they were joined by another brother, Eddie Foy, Jr.

A solemn requiem mass will be sung at the Blessed Sacrament Church in New Rochelle at 11 A.M. tomorrow. Interment will follow in New Rochelle.

William Carleton, 74

HOLLYWOOD, April 8.—Actor William P. Carleton, 74, died here Sunday night following injuries sustained in an automobile accident last Thursday. Carleton was on the stage for many years before going to the screen.

Strike Has Mixed Effect on Studios

Hollywood, April 8. — The telephone strike affected production only marginally in its two days up to last night since the most necessary inter-communication points lie within dial range of the Central Casting Bureau, which handles calls daily. Less than 10 per cent of registered players reside beyond the dial area.

Production executives expected ultimate difficulty in maintaining steady contact with units working on location, but were optimistic about devising means to overcome handicaps.

Wallis-Hazen Sets 3 Films for Fall

With the acquisition of the radio play, "Sorry, Wrong Number," from Anatole Litvak, Wallis-Hazen Productions now has three properties scheduled for the fall after completion of "So Evil My Love" in England next August, Hal Wallis discloses here. Wallis and Joseph Hazen, accompanied by Lewis Allen and Jack Saper, will sail today on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* to begin work at Denham Studio in England on the picture which will star Ray Milland and Ann Todd.

Reportedly purchased from Litvak for $150,000, "Sorry, Wrong Number" will be directed by Litvak and will be written for the screen by Lucille Fletcher, who wrote the radio script.

Other films charted by Wallis-Hazen are "House of Mist," a novel by Maria Louisa Bombal, to be adapted by Ayn Rand, and "Be Still My Love." "House of Mist" will probably be in Technicolor, Wallis said.

Omaha Arbitration Case Withdrawn

Withdrawal of a clearance complaint filed with the Omaha tribunal of the industry arbitration system by Clarence D. Frasier, operating the Joyo Theatre in Havelock, Neb., was announced yesterday by the arbitration office here. Frasier named 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, Warner Brothers, RKO Radio and M-G-M in his complaint. The Omaha board now has no cases before it.

Screen Rights Part Of Shubert Deal

WASHINGTON, April 8.—Milton I. Shubert's contract to produce a stage play based on the life and music of Giacomo Puccini give the producer potential rights to film production, Justice Department officials declare here.

Shubert signed a standard trade contract with G. Ricordi and Co., licensee of the Alien Property Office for the Puccini operas, on March 28, permitting him to produce a play under restricted conditions. If the production observes standard trade practices, Shubert would then have the right to use the material for a picture.

N.Y., Coast Writers Vote Radio Strike

Hollywood and New York members of the Radio Writers Guild, independent union affiliated with the Authors League of America, have empowered the RWG strategy committee to call a strike against the four major radio networks.

The results of the strike vote, taken Monday night in both cities, were disclosed here yesterday by Roy Langham, national executive secretary, who said that with the "overwhelming majority" being in favor of the strike, a vote taken in Chicago late last night, even if in opposition to the strike, which is held unlikely, will have no bearing on the authorization to call the strike. The Chicago vote results will be disclosed today.

Langham said that a strike notice will be sent today to the U. S. Labor Department in Washington.

The guild claims to represent more than 90 per cent of the professional radio writers in the country. Licensing of writers' material to broadcasters instead of outright sale is the principal issue.

3-Months FM Output Equals 1946 Mark

WASHINGTON, April 8. — Production of FM radio sets during the first quarter of 1947 has equalled the number of FM sets produced throughout 1946, the Radio Manufacturers' Association reports. The over-all 1947 output is expected to be approximately two and a half million. The RMA also reveals that more than 700 FM transmitters will be delivered by the end of the year, and confirms the prediction that there will be 700 FM stations on the air by the end of 1947.

Einfeld Due Friday On Second Release

Charles Einfeld, president of Enterprise Productions, is due here from the Coast on Friday in connection with the New York run of the company's second release, "The Other Love," which is slated to open at the Rivoli on April 30. Robert Taplinger, Enterprise vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity is due here today. William Blowitz, director of publicity, is already here.

New Variety Project

TORONTO, April 8. — Chief barker J. J. Fitzgibbons of Toronto Variety tent No. 28 announces that the Canadian branch of the organization will sponsor the building of a vocational school for juvenile cripples to be operated in cooperation with the Ontario Society for Crippled Children. The project, which is expected to cost $30,000 is the first of its kind in Ontario.

Nebenzal Signs Aumont

HOLLYWOOD, April 8.—Producer Seymour Nebenzal has signed Jean Pierre Aumont to a three-year nonexclusive contract calling for one picture a year starting in 1948. Aumont is currently completing "Atlantis," his first picture for Nebenzal. He costars with his wife, Maria Montez. "Atlantis" will be released through United Artists.

Eventual Admission Tax Seen Here

The five per cent admission tax which the legislature recently authorized for municipalities may have to be levied in New York City within the next few years, Mayor William O'Dwyer said yesterday. O'Dwyer cited rising costs, particularly of teachers' salaries, and said that all taxation authorized by the state may have to be employed eventually.

There was no indication that an admission tax is now under consideration.

Revised Jersey Tax Bill Passes House

TRENTON, April 8.—Assembly Bill No. 27, providing for a three per cent municipal tax on admissions, hotel receipts, liquor, tobacco and other articles, was passed by the New Jersey house today after being amended to limit it to fourth class cities in four counties bordering on the Atlantic Ocean.

The measure, which is being fought by the Federation of New Jersey Theatres, would apply in its present form to such vacation and tourist centers as Atlantic City, Asbury Park, Cape May, Wildwood and Ocean City. The amendment is a result of the opposition of the Federation which, regardless, will continue its fight in the Senate and before the governor, if the bill reaches him.

Members of the Federation already have been urged to communicate with their senators and to request hearings on the bill. The New Jersey legislature is scheduled to adjourn next week.

Await Depinet View On Censored Film

Decision as to whether RKO Radio will appeal the rejection of "Born to Kill" by the Ohio Board of Censors is expected to be taken up today here by Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-president of RKO, upon his return here from the Coast.

The film, starring Claire Trevor and Lawrence Tierney, was rejected in its entirety by the censors, who pointed out, however, that an appeal is permitted.

Oregon Tax Vote

WASHINGTON, April 8.—The Oregon legislature has adjourned after voting a general three per cent sales tax, reports Jack Bryson, Motion Picture Association legislative representative. The tax is subject to a referendum this fall. Bryson adds that 19 state legislatures have already adjourned, while 25 are still in session. The remaining four did not meet this year.

Reopen Columbus House

COLUMBUS, O., April 8. — The Olentangy Theatre, operated by Al Sugarman and Lee Hofheimer, will become Columbus's first foreign-language theatre. Now closed, the theatre will reopen soon with an all-foreign film policy.

SMPE Convention To Hear 60 Papers

CHICAGO, April 8.—More than 60 papers, covering all technical aspects of the industry, will be read at the 61st semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers to be held at the Drake Hotel here from April 21-25, according to Robert E. Lewis, secretary-treasurer of the Mid-West section of the SMPE, which will be host to the delegates.

Many of the papers will include demonstrations and exhibitions of the apparatus discussed. Since the convention is being held in the Mid-West, where a large portion of the eight mm. and 16mm. industry is concentrated, more than 30 of the papers will concern small-sized films.

Among the speakers who will present papers during the five-day convention are: William C. Eddy, director of Paramount's television station here; Arch H. Brolly, chief engineer, WBKB; B. H. Denny and R. J. Carr, Paramount Pictures, Hollywood; Michael Leshing, 20th Century-Fox, Hollywood; Norwood L. Simmons and Emery Huse, Eastman Kodak, Hollywood; George E. H. Hanson, Warner Brothers, Burbank; Eddie Albert, Hollywood producer and actor; John G. Bitel, Comprehensive Service Corp., New York; and Frank La Grande, Paramount, Long Island City.

Bogeaus and Cagney Sell General Service

HOLLYWOOD, April 8.—Ben Bogeaus and William Cagney have sold the General Service Studio to James Nassar, Northern California exhibitor, for $2,500,000. Under the deal, Bogeaus and Cagney will continue to use the studio for the next five years.

Nassar and his three brothers have a partnership in Golden Realty Corp. of San Francisco, which operates 60 theatres. Nassar has financed production for Bogeaus, Hunt Stromberg and other independents, and now plans to enter production extensively on his own.

Cinema Lodge Fetes Weitman April 29

The New York Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith will fete its retiring president, Jack H. Levin, and welcome its incoming president, Robert M. Weitman, at a dinner at the Hotel Astor, here, on April 29. Industry leaders will attend.

Saul E. Rogers, industry attorney, is honorary chairman of the dinner; Marvin Kirsch of *Radio Daily*, is chairman, and S. Arthur Glixon and Harry Wallach are co-chairmen.

Dismiss 'Conspiracy' Suit

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., April 8. — Superior Court Justice George F. Leary has ordered dismissed an equity suit, charging conspiracy, which had been filed against Lewis Williamson, Benjamin G. Hull, and Arthur J. Payette, all officers in the local IATSE.

Brought by Joseph Giard, one-time Paramount Theatre projectionist, the suit was an outgrowth of a union trial in which Giard had been fined $283 and suspended for six months. Giard said the move was a conspiracy to deprive him of union membership and of his job, which Payette ultimately took over.

'It's a Wonderful Life,'—Doubly So

Philadelphia, April 8.—Mr. and Mrs. Saul Mielziner of Quakertown, Pa., are convinced it is a wonderful life.

Winners of a $500 prize in an essay contest put on by Station WFIL here in connection with the engagement of Liberty Pictures' "It's a Wonderful Life," they became parents of boy-and-girl twins on Sunday. The boy will be named for Jimmy Stewart, star of the picture.

U. S. Clarifies New Swedish Controls

WASHINGTON, April 8.—Motion pictures enroute to Sweden from the United States before March 20 may enter the country without an import permit, the U. S. Office of International Trade announces. All films sent after that date will require import licenses.

The OIT also reported that all pictures for which irrevocable letters of credit have been issued may be imported into Sweden without restrictions during the validity of the period of the letter of credit.

The American Legation in Stockholm gave this interpretation of the Swedish government's action of March 15 reimposing import controls, in answer to a request from the OIT.

World Trade Parley In Geneva Tomorrow

WASHINGTON, April 8.—The major part of the U. S. delegation to the Geneva ITO conference has left here, the State Department announces. The conference opens Thursday. Frank McCarthy, Motion Picture Asociation representative in Paris, plans to be on hand for the entire conference, while MPA president Eric Johnston will probably leave the U. S. for Geneva late in May. No date has been fixed for the departure of MPA representative Allen Dulles.

William L. Clayton, Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, is chairman of the U. S. Government delegation, and Clair Wilcox, director of the State Department's Office of International Trade Policy, is vice-chairman.

Warner Openings Set For Two Productions

Additional premiere engagements have been set by Warner Brothers on two new productions. "Stallion Road," prior to its opening last Friday at the New York Strand and the Warner in Milwaukee, made its bow on Thursday at the Fox, San Francisco; Warner, Memphis, and Stanley, Utica. This week it will open in about 20 New England houses and more than a score of other spots throughout the country, with a total of close to 200 playdates set before the picture is released, on April 12.

"Love and Learn" is set simultaneously April 30 at the Warner, Worcester; Hippodrome, Cleveland, and Warner, Youngstown, with about 80 other pre-release bookings already set before its national release in May.



Stay Signed

(*Continued from page* 1)

ed, a stay of the admission price fixing ban, which prevents road showings; the injunction against clearances between theatres not in substantial competition; against formula deals and master agreements; against block booking and other decree provisions.

In fact, nothing the defendants asked for in the way of a stay is denied and nothing they did not ask for is in the order.

The Department of Justice had opposed all stays and filed a separate objection yesterday to a stay of arbitration's ending.

In addition, the Department had asked for a May 10 deadline for the filing of appeals from the New York judgment with the Supreme Court and Justice Reed extended that deadline to May 20.

Robert L. Wright and Philip Marcus, attorneys for the Department said today they had not seen Justice Reed's order and would not be in a position to comment on it until they had studied it. There is no appeal from the order.

The only provisions of the New York decree which are in effect now, as scheduled, are the prohibitions against performing or making franchise deals and acting concertedly in making clearance schedules.

Otis to Magazine Group

Catherine G. Otis, formerly with the *American Home Magazine*, has joined the Ideal Women's Group.

BOOK NOW!

DR. ALBERT EINSTEIN ENDORSES THIS PICTURE



THRU ALL ASTOR EXCHANGES

U-I Promotion Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

with the J. Arthur Rank Organization, will usher in a series which, the company reports, will be held three times a year. The second has been set for September. John Joseph, U-I national director of advertising-publicity, who had planned to attend the sessions here, will be unable to do so because of a leg injury on the coast.

During the New York sessions plans will be set for a program to augment the company's field staff with "flying squadrons" of exploiteers from the home office.

Productions to Be Discussed

Productions which will be the subject of planning and discussion at the meetings include: "The Egg and I," "Time Out of Mind," "Buck Privates Come Home," "Odd Man Out," "Great Expectations," "Stairway to Heaven," "Ivy," "Something in the Wind," "Slave Girl," "Secret Beyond the Door," "Brute Force," "Singapore," "The Lost Moment," "My Heart Goes Crazy," and "Pirates of Monterey."

Among speakers at the meeting will be: William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager; Matthew Fox, U-I vice-president and chairman of the board of United World Films, U-I's 16mm. subsidiary; Henry A. Linet, Eastern advertising manager; Al Horwits, Eastern publicity manager; William Heineman, sales manager for the Rank division.

Others to Be Present

Others attending will be: Bernard Kranze, L. J. McGinley, Laury Audrain, Jock Lawrence, Monroe Greenthal, A. J. O'Keefe, E. T. Gomersall, F. J. A. McCarthy, Fred Meyers, Charles Feldman, Charles Simonelli, A. J. Sharick, Bob Wile, Morris Alin, Walter Barber, William Kernan, Doris Glass, Milton Livingston, Jeff Livingston, Alfred Cohan, Al Mendelssohn, Jerome Evans, Herman Kass, Neill McNeil, Harold Gutman, Clifford Kane, Marion Orford, Dina Dore, Peggy Mahoney, E. J. Eustace, David Stern, Lillian Thompson.

Also, field exploitation representatives Ben Katz, Harold Butchin, Harry Keller, Ed Rosenbaum, Perry Spencer, Ralph Ober, William Schulman. Seymour Morris of Schine Theatres, will be a guest at tomorrow's luncheon.

$3,664 for 'Smash-Up'

Universal-International's "Smash-Up" set a new Sunday record at Warner's Aldine in Philadelphia, grossing $3,664, the U-I home office reports.

Republic

(*Continued from page* 1)

Yates also lashed out at what he termed indiscriminate releasing of reissues by all companies, saying that "the motion picture industry has gone re-issue berserk." He predicted that the industry would soon find itself losing the public esteem it now enjoys.

Yates said that "constant playing of reissues is an admission on the part of the industry to the public that it cannot produce quality pictures today as it did in former years." Yates warned that an excessive amount of reissues will bring down rentals on high-cost product now being made.

Para.-20th to Start 16mm. Foreign Unit

Emanuel Silverstone, 20th Century-Fox International Corp. home office representative, will be president, and Daniel Frankel, until now vice-president of Four Continent Films, will be general manager of a new corporation formed jointly by 20th-Fox and Paramount, to distribute 16mm. films in those foreign countries not now reached by 35mm. product.

The new corporation will have access to all product of both companies, and, in addition, will handle dubbed and super-imposed versions, to be distributed for the first time in 16mm. in foreign countries by either company. Finalization of the distribution set-up and a corporate title are yet to be set.

Decree Stay Text

(*Continued from page* 1)

division Two (II), Paragraphs One (1), Two (2), Three (3), Four (4), Six (6), Seven (7), Eight (8), and Nine (9), and Subdivision Three (III), Paragraph One (1), insofar as it refers to Paragraph Six (6) of Subdivision Two (2), and Subdivision Five (V) of said decree be and they are hereby stayed as to all defendants, with the exception of the defendants Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation and National Theatres Corporation, pending the final disposition of the case by this court.

"Upon consideration of the application of the defendants, Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation and National Theatres Corporation, and after hearing oral argument, it is ordered that enforcement of the provisions of Subdivision Two (II), Paragaph Eight (8) and Subdivision Five (V), Be, and they are hereby stayed as to said defendants pending the final disposition of the case by this court.

"The stay or stays herein granted, as to each defendants, shall terminate and be vacated on May 20, 1947, as to any defendant who shall fail to docket his appeal and file the record thereof with the clerk of this court on or before said date.

(*Signed*) *Stanley Reed, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.*

Dated this 7th day of April, 1947."

The sections of the New York decree stayed by the order are:

Subdivision Two, Par. 1: Admission price fixing. Par. 2: Agreements on a system of clearances. Par. 3: Clearance between theatres not in substantial competition. Par. 4: Excessive clearance where theatres are in substantial competition. Par. 6: Formula deals and master agreements. Par. 7: Licensing of one picture conditioned upon the licensing of another, and the directive compelling 20 per cent cancellation privilege for the theatreman of films not trade shown before licensed. Par. 8: Competitive bidding, Par. 9: Arbitrary refusal of a run requested by an exhibitor.

Subdivision Three, Par. 1: Agreements referred to in paragraphs 5 and 6 of Subdivision Three. (This is included for purposes of consistency since Subdivision Three covers only the theatre-owning distributors.)

Subdivision Five: The motion picture arbitration system.

20th-Fox Continues

(*Continued from page* 1)

negotiations in between 35 and 50 situations in his Central division. He added that his company is continuing to accept requests for such negotiations from exhibitors requesting them in writing.

While he admitted that he didn't know what the other companies were doing, Gehring said that his company's attorneys had advised that competitive negotiations can be continued even though the Supreme Court might stay certain provisions of the New York decree.

Gehring made his first trip here in two months, his absence being due to an illness from which he only recently recovered. He was accompanied here by his assistant, Jack Bloom. He will confer on the company's spring and summer product this week with various district managers holding discussions first with Jack Lorentz, Midwest district manager, here. Jim Grady, Mideast district manager, who headquarters in Cincinnati, arrived today for discussions while M. A. Levy, Prairie district manager, who headquarters in Minneapolis, will arrive here Thursday for talks with Gehring.

Five UA Theatres

(*Continued from page* 1)

the company until after he has completed his duties as representative for co-owner Charles Chaplin on the latter's newest picture, "Monsieur Verdoux." At one time Kelly was foreign distribution chief for UA. His job and title when he returns to the company have not been decided upon.

In relation to this it was reported from another source that Gradwell Sears, vice-president in charge of world-wide distribution, would relinquish responsibility for foreign distribution, but the offer was not given serious consideration yesterday by the board.

First Chaplin Interview

Charles Chaplin will hold his first mass press interview at the Hotel Gotham here next Monday afternoon.



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Films on Television Called Undesirable

CHICAGO, April 8.—Film programs are the least desirable of all television programs, it was revealed here when Balaban and Katz, operators of the local Paramount Pictures television station, WBKB, announced the results of a survey made here among local television set owners.

On the other hand, in replying to the preference on "methods of news presentation," most of the set owners prefer newsreels, with illustrative commentating the second choice, and a straight commentary the least preferred of all.

The survey was made on the listening habits of television set owners in the Chicago area, and was conducted by Morris Teller, research head of the station, under supervision of William Eddy, director of the station, who said there are now 1,800 television receivers in the area and approximately 150 are being installed weekly. He predicted that before the end of the year, Chicago will have 35,000 television receivers. While declining to reveal just how much Paramount was now investing in the station, Eddy did tell the local chapter of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers several months ago that the station is losing nearly $10,000 weekly.

Eddy said that it would take up to five years before theatre television is feasible. He cited technical difficulties involving screen size and brilliance as chief obtacles to overcome before theatre television is fully practical. Although there are only 1,800 television receivers in the area at present, Eddy said that the number of persons actually viewing the telecasts varies from 12,000 to 37,000.

Para. to Build Up Exploitation in D.C.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 8.—J. M. Joice, formerly Paramount's special representative in Cleveland, was installed in a similar post here today by Earle W. Sweigert, Paramount Mid-Eastern manager, as the company launched a new policy of building up its public relations and exploitation status in the national capital.

Under the new program, Joice will serve as liaison man between Paramount's advertising department and Government agencies. One of his first tasks will be the working out of a deal with the Post Office Department for exploiting "Blaze of Noon," which concerns the early days of U. S. airmail service. Paramount plans to invite postmasters throughout the country to attend showings of the film in key cities. Joice will also cover Roanoke, Richmond, Baltimore and Norfolk, in addition to Washington.

Edison Unit Meeting

A luncheon-meeting of the motion picture section of the Thomas A. Edison Foundation will be held here today at the Hotel Plaza, here, where new plans for the Foundation will be outlined. Speakers will be E. P. (Ted) Curtis, Eastman Kodak vice-president, who is chairman of the film section, and Philip Reed, chairman of the board of General Electric.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CHICAGO

Loop theatre managers all reported record-smashing business. The Oriental, for example, grossed $12,000 on Sunday and Monday. Exhibitors said the upsurge was due partly to fine weather. Estimated receipts for week ending April 9-10:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 15th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $12,000)
SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c). On stage: Georgie Price. Gross: $71,000. (Average: $62,000)
13 RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $13,000)
SMASH-UP (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $18,000)
MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY (Col.)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Vaughn Monroe and orchestra. Gross: $55,000. (Average: $48,000)
TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U-I)—PALACE (2,500) (65c-95c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,000)
NORA PRENTISS (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $20,000)
THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (95c) 7th week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $29,000)
THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $27,000)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (Advanced admission prices: 95c-$1.20-$1.40-$1.80) 16th week. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $28,000) (Regular admission price: 95c; regular average: $20,000)

PITTSBURGH

First-run houses failed to snap out of the pre-holiday slump over the weekend, with "The Best Years" in its fifth week, and "Costa Rica" doing better than average. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 10.

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—FULTON (1700) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.20-$1.40) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $16,500. Average at regular admission prices of 40c-70c: $9,700)
CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,000)
LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $25,000)
THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from Penn. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,500)
THE WICKED LADY (U-I)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,200)
THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $25,000)
SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,000)

PHILADELPHIA

Five new bookings, including "Best Years of Our Lives," plus the holiday weekend, strongly boomed most grosses here this week. Estimated grosses for the week ending April 8-10:

SMASH-UP (U-I)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $13,800)
BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ARCADIA (900) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.80) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $22,000. (Average at regular admission prices of 50c-94c: $6,600)
STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $21,000)
EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days, with vaudeville starring Bob Crosby. Gross, 6 days: $23,500; and **STALLION ROAD (WB).** Gross, 1 day: $3,800. (Average: $31,700)
CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $25,000)
SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $24,000)
THE LOCKET (RKO Radio)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,500)
PURSUED (WB)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2st week, 2nd run. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $6,200)
STALLION ROAD (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $34,500. (Average: $29,500)
BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PIX (500) (Advanced admissions: 90c-$1.80) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $10,000)
THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $27,000)
THE MIGHTY McGURK (M-G-M)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,700)

SALT LAKE CITY

Snow flurries and cold and rain prevailed here. The current Latter Day Saints conference is boosting attendance tremendously. Some special attractions have also been chosen for the influx of delegates. "Open City" is breaking all records at the Studio. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 10:

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $7,800)
SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $13,600)
APACHE ROSE (Rep.)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, with vaudeville. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,700)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RIALTO (1,300) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.50) 7 days. Gross: $7,900. (Average at regular admission prices of 20c-75c: $5,900)
OPEN CITY (Mayer and Burstyn)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $9,900. (Average: $4,800)
TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,900)
TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $15,900. (Average: $12,300)

St. Louis Amusement Control to Skouras

ST. LOUIS, April 8.—Control of the St. Louis Amusement Co., which operates 28 theatres here, passed to Charles Skouras and Clarence Turley, the latter has revealed, with their acquisition of control last week of the Ambassador Building Corp.

The Ambassador Investment Co., subsidiary of ABC, owns 52 per cent of the stock of St. Louis Amusement Co. The latter was operated by the Skouras's in the early 1930's.

New Clearance Case Filed in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, April 8.—A new arbitration case has been filed by Emerson A. Gibbs, owner of the Andover Theatre, at Andover, naming the five major distributors as defendants in a clearance case.

The situation involved is Ashtabula, now granted 28 and 30 days' clearance over Andover. Gibbs asks in his petition for relief that all clearance between Andover and Ashtabula be abolished.



MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Mar. 15	(March Release) JOHNNY O'CLOCK Dick Powell Evelyn Keyes D—85 mins. (Rev. 1/2/47)	(March Release) BEGINNING OR THE END Brian Donlevy Robert Walker D—112 mins. (Rev. 2/19/47)	FALL GUY Robert Armstrong Clifford Penn D—64 mins. (Rev. 3/3/47)		RANGE BEYOND THE BLUE (Rev. 3/10/47) (Eagle-Lion) LOST HONEYMOON Franchot Tone (Rev. 3/10/47)	THAT'S MY GAL Lynn Roberts Don Barry THE GHOST GOES WILD James Ellison Anne Gwynne D—66 min. (Rev. 4/7/47)	THE LOCKET Laraine Day Brian Aherne D—86 mins. (Rev. 12/14/46)	(March Releases) BACKLASH Richard Travis Jean Rogers D—66 mins. (Rev. 3/20/47)	(Andrew Stone) FUN ON A WEEKEND Eddie Bracken Pricilla Stone	(March Releases) (Reissue) DESTRY RIDES AGAIN O—93 mins. (Rev. 11/30/39)	
Mar. 22	MILLIE'S DAUGHTER Gladys George Gay Nelson D—70 mins. (Rev. 2/11/47)		THE GUILTY Bonita Granville D—71 mins. (Rev. 3/19/47)	SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING Fred MacMurray Paulette Goddard C—87 mins. (Rev. 2/10/47)	UNTAMED FURY D—61 min. (Rev. 3/21/47) (Reissues) KIT CARSON LAST OF THE MOHICANS	HIT PARADE OF 1947 Eddie Albert Constance Moore	TRAIL STREET Randolph Scott Robert Ryan O—84 mins. (Rev. 2/20/47)	ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (Reissue) M—105 mins. (Rev. 5/26/38)	(Bogeaus Prod.) THE MACOMBER AFFAIR Gregory Peck Joan Bennett D—90 mins. (Rev. 2/27/47)	(Reissue) WHEN THE DALTONS RODE O—81 mins. (Rev. 7/30/40) SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (Color) M—196 mins. (Rev. 1/30/47)	
Mar. 29	WEST OF DODGE CITY (Rev. 3/14/47) KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Rev. 3/14/47)		TRAILING DANGER Johnny M. Brown O—58 min. (676) (Rev. 3/26/47)		PHILO VANCE RETURNS William Wright Ramsey Ames	(April 1 Releases) HOMESTEADERS OF PARADISE VALLEY TWILIGHT ON The RIO GRANDE YANKEE FAKIR D—71 min. (Rev. 4/7/47)	THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE Lawrence Tierney D—62 mins. (Rev. 2/27/47)		(Hopalong Cassidy) UNEXPECTED GUEST William Boyd O—61 min. (Rev. 12/12/46)	SMASH-UP Susan Hayward D—103 mins. (Rev. 2/5/47) MICHIGAN KID (Color) O—69 mins. (Rev. 2/11/47)	THAT WAY WITH WOMEN Sydney Greenstreet Martha Vickers C—85 mins. (Rev. 2/14/47)
April 5	BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—67 mins. (Rev. 2/27/47)	(April Releases) IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN Frank Sinatra Jimmy Durante C—103 mins. (Rev. 3/3/47)	SIX GUN SERENADE Jimmy Wakely	MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE Bob Hope Dorothy Lamour C—87 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)	THREE ON A TICKET Hugh Beaumont Cheryl Walker		BEAT THE BAND Frances Langford M—67 mins. (Rev. 2/24/47)	(April Releases) THE LATE GEORGE APLEY Ronald Colman Peggy Cummins C—98 min. (Rev. 1/31/47)		(Hughes) THE SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK Harold Lloyd C—89 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)	(April Releases) BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME Abbott-Costello C—77 mins. (Rev. 3/10/47)	STALLION ROAD Ronald Reagan Alexis Smith Zachary Scott D—97 min. (Rev. 3/19/47)
April 12	(April Releases) GUILT OF JANET AMES Rosalind Russell Melvyn Douglas D—81 mins. (Rev. 3/5/47)	LITTLE MR. JIM Butch Jenkins James Craig D—94 mins. (Rev. 6/10/46)	VIOLENCE Nancy Coleman Michael O'Shea		FRONTIER FIGHTERS Buster Crabbe Fuzzy St. John	BELLS OF SAN ANGELO Roy Rogers Dale Evans	CODE OF THE WEST James Warren O—57 mins. (Rev. 2/21/47)	CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA Dick Haymes Vera-Ellen M—95 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)		YOU CAN'T CHEAT AN HONEST MAN (Reissue) W. C. Fields C—73 mins. (Rev. 2/20/39)	
April 19	FRAMED Glenn Ford Janis Carter Barry Sullivan D—82 mins. (Rev. 3/5/47)	THE SEA OF GRASS Spencer Tracy Katherine Hepburn D—125 mins. (Rev. 2/13/47)	HIGH CONQUEST Anna Lee Warren Douglas D—83 mins. (Rev. 3/13/47)		PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE Alan Curtis Frank Jenks	SPOILERS OF THE NORTH Paul Kelly Adrian Booth	THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER Loretta Young Joseph Cotten C—97 mins. (Rev. 2/19/47)	SAN DEMETRIO, LONDON Walter Fitzgerald Mervyn Johns D—76 min. (Rev. 4/1/47)	(Jules Levey) NEW ORLEANS Arturo de Cordova Dorothy Patrick	I STOLE A MILLION (Reissue) George Raft Claire Trevor D—78 mins. (Rev. 7/18/39)	
April 26		HARD BOILED MAHONEY Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall		THE IMPERFECT LADY Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—97 mins. (Rev. 3/10/47)	WEST TO GLORY Eddie Dean THUNDERGAP OUTLAWS						(Reissue) THE SEA HAWK Errol Flynn Claude Rains (Reissue) THE SEA WOLF Edw. G. Robinson Ida Lupino
May 3		(May Release) HIGH BARBAREE Van Johnson June Allyson D—91 min. (Rev. 3/13/47)	LAND OF THE LAWLESS J. Mack Brown Raymond Hatton	BLAZE OF NOON Anne Baxter William Holden D—90 mins. (Rev. 3/4/47)	RIDERS OF RED ROCK (Eagle-Lion) RED STALLION Robert Paige Ted Donaldson			(May Releases) THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR Rex Harrison Gene Tierney	(Enterprise) RAMROD Joel McCrea Veronica Lake O—94 mins. (Rev. 2/21/47)		LOVE AND LEARN Jack Carson Robert Hutton C—85 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)
May 10					(Eagle-Lion) REPEAT PERFORMANCE Joan Leslie Louis Hayward			HOMESTRETCH Cornel Wilde Maureen O'Hara			
May 17		(Reissue) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)						JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG Richard Travis Micheline Cheirel			
May 24											THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS Humphrey Bogart Barbara Stanwyck D—100 min. (Rev 4/1/47)

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Dra
(M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Da*

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 70 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1947 TEN CENTS

Arbitration Complaints Seen Rising

'Reprieve' Granted, Full Staff of System Held

By GENE ARNEEL

The motion picture arbitration system will maintain its full staff in all of its 31 key city tribunals in consequence of the "reprieve" given it by Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed in his order this week staying major portions of the New York anti-trust suit decree.

Arbitration is thus geared to continue to operate normally although a considerable increase of exhibitor interest in it appears imminent, this being based on the large number of theatremen—about 40—who availed themselves of the system on the eve of what was expected to be the date of its demise, last April 1.

Additionally, the distributors' ex-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Plans Progress for 25th Anniversary

Plans for carrying to the public the meaning of the observance of the 25th Anniversary of the Motion Picture Association, and its predecessor, the MPPDA, were completed here yesterday at a meeting of the Eastern Public Information Commitee and general publicity committee under the chairmanship of Charles Schlaifer of

(*Continued on page 8*)

Russian Spy Picture Planned by Zanuck

HOLLYWOOD, April 9.—Darryl F. Zanuck today announced plans for "The Iron Curtain," based on the Royal Canadian Commission's report on Russian spy activity in that country and on J. Edgar Hoover's report to the House Committee on Un-American Activities, to be produced by Sol C. Siegel under his supervision.

Zanuck said that the film will be in semi-documentary form, comparable to "Boomerang" and "The House on 92nd Street." It will name Russia, but it will not directly attack Communism.

Colonel Jason Joy and Anthony Muto are now in Washington conducting research for the picture, Zanuck said. Washington, New York and Canada will be used in the filming.

Zukor Warns of Danger In Sales System Changes

Hailing as "beneficial" U. S. Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed's action in postponing operations of competitive bidding under the New York Federal Court decree, Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board of Paramount Pictures, declared here that any sudden change in selling procedure would be fraught with dangers for the industry as a whole.



Adolph Zukor

Not restricting himself only to the distributor's perspective, Zukor further observed that judging from the widespread opposition of exhibitors to auction buying, the substitute sales plan charted by the New York court "is obviously not a good thing."

"Reasonable time is necessary to overcome unreasonable friction or hardships that would result from attempts to adopt and adapt a new procedure in place of what is now a habit," Zukor added.

Recently returned from a vacation, the Paramount executive said that during his visit to the Hollywood studio he called upon the Paramount staff to abandon "light, meaningless pictures" for those which have "something to say." Emphasizing the rising importance of the European market, Zukor pointed out that the peoples of Europe are looking for diversion and entertainment, but not at the expense of substance.

Zukor, who made a study of tastes

(*Continued on page 6*)

Fight on Bids Upset ATA's Initial Aims

The American Theatres Association's constant fight against competitive bidding limited ATA's work on organizational plans and promotion of better public and legislative relations for exhibition. This, it is understood, will be part of ATA's first annual report, the intended content of which is now being discussed by Ted R. Gamble, board chairman, and others.

The report, it is said, will point up the "voice" the organization had during various of the industry anti-trust litigation proceedings, including oral argument by Thurman Arnold, ATA counsel, at a hearing before Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed in Washington on March 28. At the hearing

(*Continued on page 6*)

150 Labor Bills in Cal. Legislature

SACRAMENTO, Cal., April 9.—The California legislature has before it a bill which would declare unlawful any act or threat to abridge the right to work, regardless of union membership. The measure is one of more than 150 labor measures now in the hopper, most of which would affect the motion picture industry.

A second bill provides that union membership or non-membership shall

(*Continued on page 6*)

Film Aid Asked for Edison Foundation

The general purpose of the Thomas A. Edison Foundation was outlined to industry representatives here yesterday at a luncheon-meeting of the motion picture section at the Hotel Plaza. The Foundation which has been formed to further the ideals of the inventor, proposes to raise $2,500,000, of which $400,000 is expected from the film industry.

Speakers at the meeting were Edward P. (Ted) Curtis, Eastman-

(*Continued on page 6*)

RKO Names Gomez To Aid Osserman

Max Gomez, RKO-Radio's general manager in Mexico, has been appointed to a special sales position under Jack Osserman, Latin American supervisor, by Phil Reisman, RKO-Radio vice-president in charge of foreign distribution. Gomez will handle sales and distribution of Ramex and Pathe Cinema films throughout the territory.

Reisman also appointed Harry Davis, former manager in Colombia, to replace Gomez in Mexico. Ricardo Canals, former Peruvian manager, will move to the Colombian spot. Panama manager Ned Seckler is being transferred to Brazil.

Companies To Comply With Decision

Civil Suits Are Possible, Despite Decree Stay

Film executives and legal advisors obviously are mapping sales policies cautiously. While the order staying the major portion of the New York Federal Court's decree eliminates the possibility of contempt action against them, the companies could be subject to civil suits by exhibitors who find violations of the New York court's decision which, unlike the decree, is not stayed.

Attorneys point out that the decision, if upheld by the U. S. Supreme Court on appeal, will have been law since it was handed down by the statutory court here last summer. However, in the event of reversal by the upper court it will never have been law at all.

Thus, for example, conditioning the

(*Continued on page 8*)

Schine and Griffith Appeal Dates Later

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Justice Department officials said here today that there is little chance that even the Schine or Griffith case appeals to the Supreme Court will be argued before the fall, let alone the New

(*Continued on page 6*)

Scophony Upheld in Cross-Claims Action

Federal Judge Alfred C. Coxe yesterday denied the motion of General Precision Equipment Corp., Television Productions and Paramount for dismissal of cross-claims filed by Arthur Levey and Scophony Corp. of Amer-

(*Continued on page 6*)

7 Reviews Today

"This Happy Breed," page 4; "Dark Delusion," "Fun on a Weekend," page 5; "Jewels of Brandenburg," "Violence," "Hard Boiled Mahoney," and "Thunder in the Hills," page 8.

Key city grosses are given on page 7.

1,545 New Theatres In Latin America

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Construction of 1,545 new theatres in Central and South America during the last seven years has greatly expanded the market there for U. S. films, the Commerce Department reports.

On Jan. 1, 1947, according to Nathan D. Golden, the department's motion picture consultant, there were approximately 6,331 motion picture theatres in the 21 Latin American countries, with a seating capacity of 4,398,321. This compares with 4,786 theatres in operation on Jan. 1, 1940. No figures are available on seating capacities for the earlier date.

Mexico led in construction during the period, with 540 new theatres, while Argentina had 339, Brazil, 190; Columbia, 156; Venezuela, 164; Chile, 49; Costa Rica, 31; Ecuador, 34.

In the Caribbean area—not included in the Latin American total, 150 new theatres were added during the seven-year period, making a total of 659 theatres in that area, with a seating capacity of 379,143. Cuba accounted for 110 of the 150 increase.

Golden pointed out that the period covered was a war period, when material shortages somewhat retarded theatre construction. Even greater construction, he predicts, will come when materials are really plentiful.

Talks Resumed Here On ITOA-Allied Tie

Discussions with respect to the affiliation of Allied States and New York Independent Theatre Owners Associations were resumed here yesterday at a luncheon-meeting at the Hotel Astor. Allied's committee was headed by Irving Dollinger, chairman, and included Nathan Yamins, Edward Lachman and Sidney Samuelson. The ITOA group consisted of Leon Rosenblatt, chairman; Harry Brandt, Max A. Cohen, Robert Goldblatt and John C. Bolte.

It is understood that nothing definitive occurred at this latest of a series of similar conversations concerning a proposal to merge the two organizations which was first advanced at an Allied States meeting in Boston last year.

U. S. Film Library Project Abandoned

Washington, April 9.—Plans for the construction of a new government film library and film servicing building have been shelved for this session of Congress, according to Rep. J. Harry McGregor, chairman of a House public works subcommittee on public buildings in the District of Columbia.

McGregor said construction costs are too high for any extensive building program at present. A bill providing for such a building passed the Senate last year but bogged down in the House.

Personal Mention

NED E. DEPINET, executive vice-president of RKO Radio, returned to New York yesterday from Hollywood and Phoenix.

•

ROBERT S. TAPLINGER, Enterprise vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, arrived here yesterday from the Coast. CHARLES EINFELD, president, is due in New York from Hollywood today.

•

J. G. FRAYNE, development supervisor of Western Electric's Coast Electrical Research Products Division, will address the April 21-25 SMPE convention in Chicago.

•

RICHARD LIGHTMAN, Malco Theatres executive, Memphis, and son of Malco president M. A. LIGHTMAN, will be married April 23 at New Orleans to JEANNE GARRETSON.

•

REMMEL YOUNG, lately manager of the New and Rialto theatres, Hope, Ark., has been promoted to city manager at Fort Smith, Ark., by the Malco circuit.

•

GUY BOLTON, M-G-M writer, and MRS. BOLTON left New York for England on the *Queen Elizabeth* yesterday.

•

CONSTANCE C. LAZAR of Trans-Continental Films will leave here for Europe on April 18 on a business tour of England, Belgium and France.

•

ARTHUR JEFFREY, Eagle-Lion exploitation head, left New York for Boston yesterday accompanied by KENNY DELMAR.

•

MELVIN ALBERT, New York film attorney, and MRS. ALBERT, are parents of a son, MICHAEL ANTHONY, born here last Tuesday.

•

JOSEPH ROSEN, 20th Century-Fox's Albany, N. Y., branch manager, and MRS. ROSEN, are parents of a newborn son.

•

MILTON SPERLING, president of United States Pictures, will leave the Coast tomorrow for New York, accompanied by ALLEN BORITZ, writer.

•

ALAN F. CUMMINGS, M-G-M exchange operations and maintenance manager, will return to New York tomorrow from a Southern trip.

•

CHESTER FRIEDMAN, editor *of Motion Picture Herald's* "Managers' Round Table Club," is celebrating a birthday today.

•

HARRY MANDEL, Eagle-Lion Mid-West sales supervisor, has arrived here from Chicago.

•

G. L. CARRINGTON, president of Altec, is due here from the Coast tomorrow for a three-week visit.

•

JOE YOUNG has been appointed assistant manager of the Daly Theatre, Hartford.

HARRY M. WARNER, president of Warner Brothers, who was scheduled to arrive here today from the Coast, has postponed his trip until later this month.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, head of M-G-M's reprint and importation department, will leave here at the weekend for visits to Atlanta, Jacksonville and Chicago.

•

JOSEPH R. SPRINGER, general theatre manager of Century Circuit, here, has returned to his desk after a seven-day vacation.

•

DON HASSLER, special sales representative of Astor Pictures of Georgia, has returned to Atlanta from a tour of North Carolina.

•

HENRY KRUMM, Southern district manager for the Selznick Releasing Organization, has returned to Atlanta from New Orleans.

•

G. J. MALFRONTE, Universal-International assistant manager in charge of branch operations, has been visiting in Memphis.

•

MRS. J. F. CARNAHAN, Kentucky theatre owner, is recuperating in Crothersville, Ind., from a recent operation.

•

SAM HARRIS of the State Theatre, Hartford, and MRS. HARRIS, are vacationing in Florida.

•

ROBERT M. SAVINI, president of Astor Pictures, has returned here from Miami and Atlanta.

•

HERMAN WEISMAN, United Artists board member, is in New York from the Coast.

•

E. J. MANNIX, M-G-M production executive, has returned to the Coast from New York.

•

IRA EPSTEIN, Warner field representative, is in New York from Chicago.

•

JULES K. CHAPMAN, assistant sales manager for Film Classics, is in Buffalo from New York.

•

BERNARD BROOKS, manager of the Gotham Theatre, here, became the father of a boy on Tuesday.

•

EDWIN W. AARON, assistant general sales manager for M-G-M, has returned here from Miami.

•

J. E. O'DONNELL and PETE FRIEDHOFF of Monogram's New York staff, have arrived in Atlanta.

•

SYLVESTER GROVE, head of the Parkview Amusement Co., Louisville, is vacationing in Hot Springs, Ark.

•

BAILEY PRICHARD, Monogram branch manager, has returned to Memphis from Little Rock, Ark.

Republicans Have 'Tough' Labor Bill

Washington, April 9.—The House Republican steering committee today approved a "tough" union control bill which includes a ban on the closed shop, jurisdictional strikes and secondary boycotts. It also restricts union shops and industry-wide bargaining. Injunctions against strikes affecting the public welfare are also provided for. The bill would make unions liable to suit and subject to registration and periodic reports.

Satenstein to Make Four for Marathon

Frank Satenstein, theatrical producer will be chief producer for the new Marathon Pictures, Inc., which has contracted to make four pictures within the year for distribution by Producers Releasing Corp. Shooting of the first will begin in July. Peter Mayer is chief director of the new organization; Max Wilk heads the story department, and Robert Joseph is associate producer.

Marathon Pictures is backed by ITOA president Harry Brandt, and Arthur L. Mayer, manager of the Rialto Theatre here.

Outline Plans for Labor Film Center

Plans for a non-profit film center, organized by some 100 national civic and labor organizations, were outlined at a press interview here yesterday by Robert Delson, industry and labor lawyer, and chairman of the executive committee of the new unit, which as yet is unnamed.

Its activities will include the screening, cataloguing, and indication of sources of non-theatrical films on social and public affairs. A central library of films produced by member groups will also be set up. The center expects to open distribution offices in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles.

Four Film Classics Units Consolidated

ALBANY, N. Y., April 9.—Consolidation of four subsidiaries into Film Classics, Inc., was effected here today. The consolidated subsidiaries are: Film Classics of Illinois, Inc., Film Classics of Indiana, Inc., Film Classics of Kansas City, Inc., and Film Classics of Southern California, Inc.

Attorneys were Stillman and Stillman, New York.

Garner to Paris

B. L. Garner, head of Vog Films, French film distributor here, is scheduled to fly to Paris today to arrange for Western Hemisphere distribution of some 20 new French pictures. He is due to return here in about two months.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies. 10c.

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TWEET, TWEET. IT'S SPRING, IT'S LOVE-TIME. LEARN ALL ABOUT IT!

French Production in Profit Quandary

Since the highest gross which a top quality French film can now earn in French-speaking lands is only about $340,000 (40,000,000 francs), French producers are finding it necessary to budget individual pictures well below that figure in order to realize a profit on their investments, because the foreign market for French films, particularly in America, cannot contribute appreciably to French film profits. This is the report made here by Jack Votion, RKO Radio's studio representative in Europe, who arrived here recently from London and Paris.

Votion, however, had high praise for the ingenuity which the French are exercising toward making good pictures, despite handicaps of limited studio space, worn-out equipment and high production costs. Pointing out that the French market here is limited to "art" houses, he said the English aside narration which Maurice Chevalier does in the RKO Radio-Pathe Cinema production, "Man About Town," which is scheduled to be released in the U. S. this year, is a new technique used in a French production that will slot the film automatically for general exhibition here.

The picture, made under a 50-50 cost-and-profit deal between RKO Radio and Pathe Cinema, is the first to be produced jointly by the two companies, and very likely will be followed by others, Votion said, adding that it is likely too that RKO Radio will strike up similar deals with producing organizations in other European countries.

The French version of "Man About Town" will be released in France on April 15, Votion disclosed. The film was produced under the supervision of Rene Claire, who, with the financial advisory assistance of Votion, is currently working on the dubbing of the Chevalier narration at RKO Pathe's studios, here.

Votion said British studio facilities of the J. Arthur Rank organization are excellent from every standpoint. Recently RKO and the Rank interests completed "So Well Remembered" in London. He said producer Adrian Scott's having completed the picture within the time stipulated for it and at a cost well below the original budget requirements—an unusual feat in England today—met with high praise from Rank.

Buy 'Idiot' for U. S.

U. S. distribution rights to "The Idiot," French drama based on the Dostoievsky novel, have been acquired by European Copyrights and Distribution, Inc.

Review

"This Happy Breed"

(*Two Cities-Prestige Pictures-Universal*)

IT was Shakespeare who described the Englishman as "this happy breed of men." From him, Noel Coward drew the title for this heart-warming, appreciative study and story of the British common man.

Its direction is intelligent and sound, its performances excellent. By any critical standard, "This Happy Breed" is far above the routine, with an appeal principally directed toward more adult audiences who have appreciation of superior craftsmanship.

Coward undertook a cavalcade of the joys and tragedies of a lower middle-class family in the two decades between the World Wars. His people are not important in the sense that they ever rise, or have opportunity to rise, above their station. Thus, what they do, or have opportunity of doing, is never important either. But they reflect the habits and the thinking of millions exactly like them in Britain, in this country and elsewhere. By such an approach, "This Happy Breed" is telling a story of untold mililons of men and women who, by sheer weight of numbers, create an importance never to be discounted.

Robert Newton is the World War I veteran, resuming civilian status with Celia Johnson, his wife, and their three children. Next door neighbor is Stanley Holloway, also a veteran. The two men become inseparable. Holloway's son, played by John Mills, loves and waits for Kay Walsh, one of Newton's daughters who strays from the hearth but finally marries the boy so faithful to her. Eileen Erskine, another daughter, weds Guy Verney, political firebrand who softens under the responsibilities of wife and family. John Blythe, third of Newton's children, meets death in a motor car along with his wife.

It is incidents such as this which give the film vitality. Story-wise, it is never substantial, but the believability and honesty which have been captured by David Lean perhaps are best explained by the deftness and depth of his direction and his very considerable ability in having his talented principal players perform like normal human beings. To point out that for virtually all the way Newton and Miss Johnson—she was the feminine lead in the memorable "Brief Encounter"—act and react like average members of an average family is to compliment them as artistes and to recognize how fortunate is the film which has their services.

Acting honors, however, do not end with them. Amy Veness, as a crotchety grandmother; Alison Leggatt, as an old-maid aunt, and others of the small cast have their contributions to make, and they are substantial.

IN the background is the shifting march of events—industrial, social and political—until Leane brings his production to its finish on the eve of World War II. The objective in Coward's mind was to convey the inherent strength, the respectability and the orderliness of the average Britisher, as well as his faith in the homeland. "This Happy Breed" fulfills the objective and, as such, may be interpreted as a first-class effort seeking to demonstrate to any who may doubt that there will always be an England.

Ronald Neame at the Technicolor cameras reflects much ability. Anthony Havelock-Allan served as associate producer.

Running time, 110 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

RED KANN

Peter Burnup reviewed "This Happy Breed" from London in MOTION PICTURE DAILY of April 28, 1944. He said the film "is a great, ennobling and stimulating picture, lending dignity to the entire British industry."

Nuremberg Captain At Paramount Party

Capt. Sam Harris, a member of the Nuremberg prosecution staff, will be guest speaker at the next stag party of the Paramount Pictures Club, to be held on April 17 at the company's home office. Paramount vice-president Austin C. Keough will be honorary chairman of the meeting, and his assistant, William J. Healy, will be chairman. The party is the second in a series instituted by Mrs. Agnes Mengel Grew, club president.

Rank, Schlesinger, Blumberg to Meet

With British industry leader J. Arthur Rank due to arrive in the U. S. next month, and I. W. Schlesinger, head of the Schlesinger theatrical interests in South Africa, scheduled to sail for this country this month, a meeting of the two in New York with Universal president Nate Blumberg is expected to take place, a Universal spokesman admitted here yesterday. Blumberg, now on the Coast, is due to return here in about 10 days.

The discussions would settle final details of the three-way pact in which Rank and U-I last month bought into Schlesinger South African exhibition-distribution interests, it is understood, and would also entail a production program for South Africa.

Reopen Antwerp House

M-G-M's Metro Theatre in Antwerp, Belgium, formerly called the Scala, will reopen tomorrow, it was announced here by Morton A. Spring, vice-president of Loew's International Corp. This will make the second "showcase" for M-G-M in Belgium. The other is the Forum Theatre in Liege, which reopened March 22.

Balaban Gets UJA Pledge in Detroit

DETROIT, April 9.—Leaders of the Detroit amusement industry tonight pledged 100 per cent support for the United Jewish Appeal campaign, following a dinner address by Barney Balaban, national chairman of the motion picture division, at the Variety Club here.

The dinner followed a cocktail [illegible] y attended by the principal worke[illegible] in the local drive. At noon Balaban held a meeting with the heads of the local drive, including Lew Wisper, Arvid Kantor and Arthur Robinson, who, with Alex Schreiber, are serving as co-chairmen for the industry.

Also attending the luncheon meeting were Isadore Sobeloff, executive director of the Jewish Welfare Federation of Detroit, and Peter B. Colwin, trade director for UJA; Lew Novins, of Paramount, and Sam Shain, of 20th Century-Fox, who made the trip here with Balaban. Balaban addressed a similar meeting in Cleveland last night.

Also at the dinner here were: Max Allen, Al Ackerman, Irving Belinsky, Max Blumenthal, S. J. Bowman, Paul Broder, Lou Cohen, Albert Dezel, M. Dudelson, Adolph Goldberg, Irving Goldberg and Louis Goldberg.

Youngstein, Pickman To E-L Coast Parley

Max E. Youngstein, Eagle-Lion director of advertising-publicity, will leave here today for Hollywood to participate in discussions now under way on product for 1947-48. In Hollywood, he will join Eagle-Lion president Arthur B. Krim, distribution vice-president Alfred W. Schwalberg, and vice-president and production chief Bryan Foy, who have been discussing product.

Youngstein will be accompanied to the Coast by Jerry Pickman.

'Carnegie' in Nine More Foreign Cities

"Carnegie Hall" will be shown in nine more foreign cities this month, Walter Gould, United Artists foreign manager, announces.

The new premieres will be in Manila, on April 15; Lima, April 16; Johannesburg and Durban, South Africa, April 16; and Panama, April 17. Buenos Aires, Santiago, Port-of-Spain and Havana will see the film at later dates. It is already being shown in Stockholm and San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Rhoda Rich Joins E-L

Rhoda Rich, former assistant director of publicity on Federal Films' "Carnegie Hall," has joined Eagle-Lion's home office publicity department as a member of the newspaper and magazine contact department. Miss Rich was also connected with the publicity departments of Story Productions and Columbia Pictures.

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Reviews

"Dark Delusion"

(*M-G-M*)

THE surgical scissors left by Dr. Kildare are picked up by Dr. Tommy Coalt (James Craig) but otherwise the series of case histories, unique in the annals of medical history, continues, with this newest addition unreeling as unobjectionable, dependable fare for the general audience.

Lionel Barrymore is still aboard as the sage of Blair General Hospital, and Lucille Bremer is the patient, treated and cured by Craig in defiance of counsel of his elders. Carey Wilson's polished production shapes up as apparently intended, in keeping with the agreeable box-office values of preceding Kildare pictures.

Jayne Meadows, Warner Anderson, Henry Stephenson, Alma Kruger, Keye Luke and others support the principals in capably enacting the original story by Jack Andrews and Harry Ruskin. Core of the plot is Miss Bremer's apparent insanity and Craig's determined and ultimately successful efforts to prove otherwise. The story is based on the characters created by the late Max Brand. Willis Goldbeck directed, and very well.

Running time, 90 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

GENE ARNEEL

"Fun on a Weekend"

(*Andrew Stone-United Artists*)

VERSATILE Andrew Stone's "Fun on a Weekend"—he wrote, directed and produced it—is strictly for laughs. And if box-office possibilities can be estimated on the basis of how many laughs a film produces, this one promises to be fun for exhibitors any time of the week. A serious-drama audience which was surprised with a "sneak" preview of "Fun on a Weekend," at New York's Pix Theatre, received with repeated chuckles and guffaws the comedy high jinks of Eddie Bracken, Priscilla Lane and a host of supporting players, including Tom Conway, Allen Jenkins, Arthur Treacher, Clarence Kolb, Fritz Feld and a huge dog with an uncontrolled proclivity for gnawing at the legs of fine furniture.

Writer Stone resorted to the bag of standard comedy ingredients for his story, but producer-director Stone endowed them with plenty of zip and gloss in the telling. Practically every member of the cast—particularly Bracken—performs at an almost breakneck comedy pace.

It is all about a boy and a girl, unemployed and broke, who trade their clothes for bathing togs and through the exercise of all the "brass" they can muster—and that's plenty!—catapult themselves within a couple of days to the top of the financial and social register of a wealthy Florida community. If Stone intended to be satirical, he succeeded, for rich folk come in for lots of good-humored pokings in this one. The dialogue throughout is loaded with gags, a number being of the eye-winking variety, and they cull as many laughs as do the physical antics of Bracken and the others. Bracken and Miss Lane, as the posers, give first-rate tongue-in-cheek performances all the way through, and apparently that is precisely what Stone desired. Don McElwaine was associate producer.

Running time, 93 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, May 4.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Short Subjects

"Children in Trouble"

(*March of Time—New York State Youth Commission*)

Produced by the March of Time for the New York State Youth Commission, and offered free to exhibitors throughout the state with a guarantee against 16mm. distribution until after all theatrical showings, "Children in Trouble" is a brief but very much to the point appeal for organized community action in the fight against juvenile delinquency.

Dramatized with characteristic MOT polish, and narrated with customary verve by Westbrook Van Voorhis, are the happenings in the daily lives of children that threaten to plunge them into the cauldron of crime, and the methods parents, schools, churches, and police should pursue to prevent delinquency. The film, scheduled for release beginning April 15, is a quality production which theatres can book with confidence in their efforts to give public service. Running time, 10 minutes.

"The Dead Strike Back!"

(*Telenews Productions*)

Produced by the Czechoslovak Documentary Film Unit, "The Dead Strike Back!" is an interesting one-reel report of the brutality inflicted on the Czechoslovakian people during the occupation of their country by the Germans.

Opening with scenes of the war crimes trials, it tells the story of retribution to the Czechs who were responsible for collaborationist activities, as well as to the Germans who murdered and pillaged towns and cities, including the infamous destruction of Lidice.

Although the film is presented as forceful testimony, some American audiences may find the scenes of decomposed and battered bodies a little too strong. Jan Masaryk, son of the founder of the Czech Republic, is the narrator, the subject is being released nationally by Telenews Productions. Running time, 10 minutes.

America's Town Meeting

(*General Film Productions*)

Appearing for the first time on the screen, the popular radio forum is shown discussing the question, "Are Parents or Society Responsible for Juvenile Delinquency." Speakers are: Father Edward J. Flanagan of Boys' Town, Tom Clark, U. S. attorney general; Dorothy Thompson, author and columnist, and Ethel Alpenfels, anthropologist, with George V. Denny, Jr., Town Hall head, as moderator. Graphic shots illustrating the subject are interlaced with short speeches. Running time, 18 minutes.



Scophony Upheld

(*Continued from page* 1)

ica growing out of the Government's anti-trust suit against all of the parties.

In denying the dismissal, Judge Coxe said that on the basis of facts presented, "Scophony of America is not an active participant in the alleged violations of the anti-trust laws but is a victim thereof, unable to shake itself free from the domination of the moving parties." He added that Scophony of America and Levey, its president, may find it difficult to prove damages sustained, "but they are entitled to an opportunity to do so."

Pending, meanwhile, is possible agreement between the defendants and the Government on a consent decree to guide future television operations of the companies. The Government has proposed such a decree be set up.

Scophony of America in its cross-claims has disclaimed monopolistic association with the other defendants and is suing General Precision, Television Productions and Paramount for damages allegedly resulting from the holding of their products off the market because of the suit in which, the company claims, it should not properly be included.

Sell Two Theatres

ATLANTA, April 9.—Martin and Thompson theatres circuit has sold the Gray, at Gray, to J. C. Balcom and the Roxy, at Milan, to Cecil Crumby.

New Film Process For Video's News

PHILADELPHIA, April 9.—A faster method of developing motion picture film to allow transmission of news events by television shortly after they happen was demonstrated here yesterday by engineers of American Broadcasting, Eastman-Kodak and Philco Corp.

Two hundred feet of film showing a simulated Coast Guard rescue were developed in about 25 minutes and flown to television station WPTZ at Wyndmoor, Pa. The film was developed aboard the plane which filmed the rescue.

Bezahler's Father Dies

Lewis Bezahler, father of Joel Bezahler, home-office assistant to J. E. Flynn, Midwest M-G-M sales manager, will be buried at Mt. Carmel Cemetery, in Brooklyn, today, following his death yesterday after a long illness.

Edison Foundation

(*Continued from page* 1)

Kodak vice-president, who is chairman of the film section, and Philip Reed, chairman of the board of General Electric and industrial chairman of the campaign. Both sketched the contributions of Edison and discussed the aims of the Foundation.

Among industry representatives present were Adolph Zukor, Neil Agnew, J. Cheever Cowdin, Terry Ramsaye, Leonard Goldenson, Francis Harmon, Abe Schneider, Paul Raibourn, J. W. Alicoate, Chick Lewis, W. C. Michael and Ralph Poucher.

● *SPECIAL TRAIN INFORMATION* ●

for

VARIETY CLUB INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

To Be Held at

AMBASSADOR HOTEL in LOS ANGELES

MAY 14th to 17th

The National Tent in cooperation with the Los Angeles Tent will operate special trains to this important convention and industry gathering. The New York through cars will leave on Friday, May 9th, arriving in Los Angeles on Monday morning, May 12th.

For Pullman space on these special trains, please communicate with:

"CHICK" LEWIS
1313 Paramount Bldg., New York City
Tel.: LOngacre 3-0121

Arbitration

(*Continued from page* 1)

perience has been that complaints grew in number with the handing down of the decision in the equity case and the same is held likely with the new Reed order postponing distribution phases of the decree.

Until Justice Reed, on March 28, disclosed his intention to grant the stay ordering arbitration's end, American Arbitration Association executive director J. Noble Braden, and assistant executive director J. J. Murphy, had anticipated the immediate closing of 20 tribunals around the country with the remaining 11 to close upon determination of pending complaints.

System Started in 1940

The system, as administered by the AAA, was born with the industry-Government consent decree of Nov., 1940, and began actual operations in the following February, with no less than 6,000 cases expected during the first year. On the basis of this expectation a panel of 1,200 arbitrators was established, to be paid $50 for each day spent sitting on a case. Only 148 cases were brought to "trial" in all of that year and, to date, little more than 500 complaints have been adjudged. (The arbitrator's honorarium went down to $10).

The consent decree set a budget of $490,000 for the first year and $465,000 annually thereafter. But operating costs were only $390,000 in 1941, and approximately $300,000 for each year since.

Costs are met principally by five film companies: Paramount, Warners, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's and RKO Radio, which contribute on the basis of proportionate earnings.

Main Expenses

Exhibitor expenses lie mainly in lawyer's fees and costs of printing a complaint and case records when an appeal of an award is taken. They pay AAA a $10 filing fee and the same amount for each day's hearing of a complaint, plus $25 for an appeal. Additionally, they incur, possibly, other expenditures for inspection of theatres or of a locality involved in an arbitration case.

The original appeal board comprised the late Van Vechten Veeder, chairman, and George W. Alger and Albert W. Putnam, associates. Upon Veeder's death, Alger became chairman and in turn was replaced by Robert M. March. Salaries of $20,000 annually for the chairman and $17,500 for his associates, were set by the New York court, and are included in the $300,000 annual cost of operation.

ATA's Initial Aims

(*Continued from page* 1)

ATA is credited with having had some influence in obtaining the stay of the distribution provisions of the New York decree, including bidding.

Actually, ATA has allowed its first anniversary to go by unnoticed. A convention at first intended for February and repeatedly deferred, is now off indefinitely, the likely reason being unsettled conditions within the industry as a result of the decree-stay and pending appeals. Consequently all ATA incumbents will continue in office until a convention is eventually called and elections held.

Zukor Warns

(*Continued from page* 1)

abroad during his trip to Europe two months ago, asserted: "There is no room today for escapism in films. We are beyond the lush period of the war when anything stood up." Indicating that Paramount will give greater emphasis to the foreign market, he continued: "Since motion pictures are the only source of escape for a hard-ridden world from its daily drudge, they bear a tremendous responsibility. Credibility is important."

He added this would apply to Bing Crosby and Bob Hope as well as to Paramount's dramatic stars. Crosby and Hope, he said, symbolize laughter, but hereafter they must hew to consistency and characterization.

Describing himself as a "middle-of-the-road observer, neither an optimist nor a pessimist," the Paramount chairman asserted that he does not believe a recession will hit the nations' economy. "Things are in the process of becoming settled now," he said, indicating that "wholesale unemployment is the only blow that would seriously hamper the country." However, he continued, price and cost readjustments, now gradually being put into effect, will overcome any tendency toward an economic setback. With high production costs and the consequent need for efficiency and economy confronting Paramount, as well as the industry as a whole, Zukor intimated that his company would try to maintain an even keel through internal efficiences rather than through employment cutbacks.

Cal. Legislature

(*Continued from page* 1)

not be a condition of employment, discharge or agreement by an employer. A three-man labor mediation board would be created by a third bill, which would prohibit strikes or lockouts unless notice is first filed with the board.

Another measure would authorize criminal conspiracy suits for anyone causing, encouraging or inducing strikes that are not the result of a trade dispute within the industry in which the would-be strikers are employed.

Also affecting the industry are two bills connected with the picketing of San Francisco theatres by Negroes.

Appeal Arguments

(*Continued from page* 1)

York case, the last of the three to go to the high court.

Although the Schine case has already been docketed, the court's calendar is crowded as the June adjournment draws near, making it almost certain that argument will go over until the court reconvenes in October.

The Government has been delayed in getting some of its exhibits from Oklahoma City in the Griffith case, but these are coming in now, and the Justice Department expects the case to be docketed "in the near future—certainly before the end of the month."

Justice Department lawyers yesterday declared that they had no comment to make on the stay order handed down this week by Justice Stanley Reed in the industry New York anti-trust case.

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"The Egg and I" opened with pronounced strength in all of six key first-run theatres to set, according to U-I, a new record here in the number of theatres used for one picture. Seven first-run theatres held special late shows Saturday night for the convenience of worshippers attending sunrise services. The weather has been balmy all week. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 9:

THE LOCKET (RKO Radio) and CODE OF THE WEST (RKO Radio)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,100)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $11,500)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,309) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,200)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $18,100)

THE LOCKET (RKO Radio) and CODE OF THE WEST (RKO Radio)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,800)

BEDELIA (Eagle-Lion)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $9,100)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Goldwyn)—FOX-BEVERLY (1,350) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 7 days, 15th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,400)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,700)

THE LOCKET (RKO Radio) and CODE OF THE WEST (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $18,800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PALACE (1,237) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 7 days, 11th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $21,000)

THE GUILT OF JANET AMES (Col.) and BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $20,800)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.) and RENEGADE GIRL (Screen Guild)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $26,600)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,100)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $9,600)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $6,100)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $13,300)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—GUILD (965) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,500. (Average at regular admission prices of 50c-$1.00: $5,900)

THE GUILT OF JANET AMES (Col.) and BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $19,800)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $7,200)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $28,600)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $22,600)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,700)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $14,200)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $15,800)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,200)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—VOGUE (800) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.50-$1.80) 7 days, 14th week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000)

STALLION ROAD (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $18,200)

STALLION ROAD (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $15,500)

STALLION ROAD (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $14,900)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—BRUIN (867) (50c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $2,500)

BOSTON

The expected dip in business over the weekend was unusual in its action. The Saturday slump was bad but business picked up sharply on Sunday, bringing receipts to a better-than-1946 level for the equivalent period. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 9:

MILLIE'S DAUGHTER (Col.)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show: Carmen Cavallaro and orchestra. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $31,000)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.) and THE GUILTY (Mono.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $4,800. (Average: $6,500)

THE LOCKET (RKO Radio) and SINGING IN THE CORN (Col.)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c) 6 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $27,200)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $25,300. (Average: $26,000)

DEAD RECKONING (Col.) and THE THIRTEENTH HOUR (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,000)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.) and THE GUILTY (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $14,900)

BOOM TOWN (M-G-M reissue) and CIGARETTE GIRL (Col.)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $17,000)

BUFFALO

There has ben a noticeable pickup in box-office receipts here, although cold weather is continuing. Business in general is now about average. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 12:

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,000)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,000)

LOVE LAUGHS AT ANDY HARDY (M-G-M) and THE TRAP (Mono.)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,400. (Average: $10,000)

I'LL BE YOURS (U-I) and SHADOWED (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM (20th-Fox) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.50) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $17,800. (Average at regular admission prices of 40c-50c-60c-70c: $16,000)

CLEVELAND

Most new pictures had quiet starts, except "Pursued," which opened big. "Angel and the Badman" started slow but built fast. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 8-9:

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,000)

ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $23,800)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $11,000)

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO)—LOWER MALL (563) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 5 days. Gross: $12,114. (Average at advanced prices: $9,500)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000)

JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $21,400)

PURSUED (WB)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $22,600)

NORA PRENTISS (WB)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,300. (Average: $3,650)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—UNIVERSITY (917) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 5 days. Gross: $14,254. (Average as a subsequent run: $2,500)

DENVER

Business was off some during the week but shot up over the weekend. "My Favorite Brunette" stays for a second week at the Denham. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 9-10:

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ALADDIN (1,400) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average at 35c-74c: $4,000)

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M) and BORN TO SPEED (PRC)—BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $7,500)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,000)

I'LL BE YOURS (U-I) and THE LONE WOLF IN MEXICO (Col.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with the Esquire and Webber. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000)

I'LL BE YOURS (U-I) and THE LONE WOLF IN MEXICO (Col.)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with the Denver and Webber. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,000)

THE MIGHTY McGURK (M-G-M) and THE MASK OF DIJON (PRC)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,500)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 7 days, after two weeks at the Denver, Esquire, Webber and Rialto. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,000)

NORA PRENTISS (WB) and VACATION DAYS (Mono.)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 7 days, after a week at the Denver, Esquire and Webber. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,000)

I'LL BE YOURS (U-I) and THE LONE WOLF IN MEXICO (Col.)—WEBBER (750)(35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with the Denver and Esquire. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $2,000)

OMAHA

The holiday was only able to help send two first-runs to above average. Weather was mixed, with showers almost every day. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 9-10:

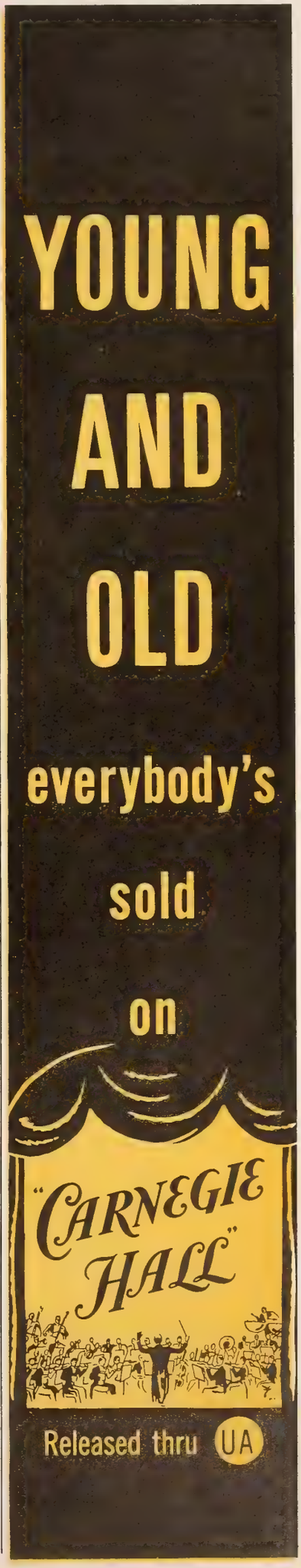
MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U-I) and VACATION DAYS (Mono.)—OMAHA (2,00) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $8,300)

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M) and VACATION DAYS (Mono.)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,600. (Average: $9,600)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,600)

TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio) and CIGARETTE GIRL (Col.)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,200) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $6,600)

(Continued on following page)



Key Grosses

(Continued from preceding page)

ST. LOUIS

The seasonal holidays cut more sharply into theatre grosses than in any similar period since 1941, with "California," "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "My Favorite Brunette" holding up strongest against the trend. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 9:

I'LL BE YOURS (U-I) and BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio)—AMBASSADOR (3,154) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,000)

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $20,000)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M) and SO DARK THE NIGHT (Col.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $20,000)

THE RED HOUSE (UA) and THIRTEENTH HOUR (Col.)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days, on a moveover from Loew's State. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,000)

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (RKO Radio) and SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,500)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.20-$1.50) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average at regular admission prices of 50c-75c: $12,500)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.) and SEVEN WERE SAVED (Para.)—SHUBERT (2,000) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week, of a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $6,000.

25th Anniversary

(Continued from page 1)

20th Century-Fox, held at the Hotel St. Moritz.

The anniversary will be signalized in a dinner to be given by the industry to outstanding individuals from all over the world at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, New York, on May 8. Besides marking the silver jubilee of the organized industry, Schlaifer pointed out the affair will point up the contribution of the American motion picture as an institution of society and its world-wide contribution to the well-being of peoples. Eric Johnston, MPA president, and J. Arthur Rank, head of the British Film Producers Association, London, will speak, and leading public dignitaries and film celebrities will attend.

The appointment of various subcommittee chairmen to handle promotional and publicity details of the anniversary and the dinner was announced by Schlaifer at the luncheon-meeting yesterday, as follows: Trade papers, Jack Alicoate and Milton Livingston; newspapers and press associations, Ulric Bell; columnists, Sid Garfield and Al Rylander; radio, Burt Champion and Irving Cahn; newsreels, Glen Allvine; printed programs and art, Abbott Weisbord; research and stills, Joel Swenson, Halsey Raines, Len White, Henry Straus, E. J. Eustace and Gertrude Smith; magazines, Al Horwits; field coordination, Arthur N. Brilant; British and overseas, Jerry Dale.

Chicago Gets 'Dillinger'

CHICAGO, April 9. — Monogram's "Dillinger," which was released several years ago, will have its first Chicago area showing at two Essaness houses on May 29. The film had been banned here up to now for what were unofficially described as "political reasons."

Reviews

"Jewels of Brandenburg"

(20th Century-Fox)

A KNOTTY problem is presented for unraveling by the armchair sleuths, involving a contest of wits between international jewel thieves and a U. S. Government agent, with deadly weapons used. The film is standard mystery-drama, resorting to many stock devices to heighten melodramatic effect, and with a cast turning in reliable performances, it makes a satisfactory film of its kind.

Richard Travis, as a piano-playing hero, cuts a dashing figure in a screenplay by Irving Elman, Irving Cummings, Jr., and Robert G. North, from an original by the latter two. At the request of the Government, he takes a plane to Lisbon, and there sets the bait to bring out the Brandenburg jewel thieves. Their identity established, the task revolves around getting the gems back, a job that results in many tense moments.

The cast is rounded out with Micheline Chirel, as a dangerous siren of exotic accents; Leonard Strong, a suave figure of villainy, and Carol Thurston, sharing the romantic angle with Travis. Eugene Forde directed the Sol M. Wurtzel presentation, with Paul Wurtzel as associate producer.

Running time, 64 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, in May.

MANNY HERBSTMAN

"Violence"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, April 9

SOMEBODY had a good idea at the outset of this melodrama, but it got lost in the resultant screenplay, by Stanley Rubin and Louis Lantz. Jack Bernhard's direction, too, leaves much to be desired, and Edward J. Kay's musical score is obtrusive, to say the least.

It is unfortunate that the film comes off poorly as entertainment, for the fundamental idea is interesting and timely.

An organization known as the United Defenders sets out to preach hatred to returned war veterans, and under the cover of pretended patriotism, robs them of their money and their rights. Like Hitler's early followers, members of the organization stop at nothing, not even murder. A girl reporter gets a job as secretary to the organization's head, in order to expose the group. On her way to make her report, however, she is involved in an automobile accident which leaves her with amnesia. Fortunately, the FBI has also assigned an agent to investigate United Defenders, and his efforts ultimately meet with success.

Emory Parnell and Sheldon Leonard, villains of the piece, turn in far better performances than do the leads, Nancy Coleman and Michael O'Shea. The film is a Jack Bernhard-Bernard Brandt production.

Running time, 72 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 12.

THALIA BEDL

"Hard Boiled Mahoney"

(Monogram)

IN characteristic shenanigan fashion "The Bowery Boys" continue their laugh-provoking adventures which this time take them into the detective business. Leo Gorcey, flanked by Huntz Hall, Bobby Jordan, Gabriel Dell, Billy Benedict, Patti Brill and other members of the gang, set out to find a beautiful society girl who has been missing from her family. Their hunt leads them into the den of fortune-teller Dan Seymour who is a blackmailer on the side, and who has made the missing girl one of his victims. From there on in it is one chase after another, in and out of hotel apartments and across roof-tops, winding up with the boys as innocent—and very ignorant—participants in a quiz program on the air.

William Beaudine, directing from an original by Cyril Endfield, has succeeded measurably in playing up the kind of slap-stick excitement that has endeared "The Bowery Boys" to their many fans. Edmond Seward contributed additional dialogue, and if his lines are those which permit the boys to murder the King's English, he is responsible for a great number of the laughs. Others in the cast include Betty Compson, Pierre Watkin, Teala Loring and Bill Ruhl. Jan Grippo produced.

Running time, 63 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 26.

C. L. F.

"Thunder in the Hills"

(General Film Productions Corp.)

CZECH film makers have sent over a stirring dramatization of their war-years under Nazi occupation. Said to be their first resistance film to be shown on these shores, it is a briskly-spaced and engrossing drama that should especially make a worthy selection for foreign-language houses and "art theatres."

Outstanding in the carefully-wrought production is its authenticity of background, its strong, yet restrained characterizations, and a narrative development that rings true to reality. The story, set in a small village, for the most part centers around the Nazi hunt for a shot-down allied pilot who is being sheltered by the villagers. Frustrated in their attempt to terrorize the villagers into bringing forth the pilot, the Nazis grow increasingly barbarous, until finally the agonies of the people erupt into a successful uprising. A large cast of unknowns, all skilled in their acting, has been assembled by director Vaclav Kubasek. Excellent camerawork further enhances the O. Sedlacek production, produced by Czech State Film Productions. While the action of the story speaks eloquently enough, effective sub-titles have been supplied.

Running time, 80 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, April.

M. H.

Decree Stay

(Continued from page 1)

licensing of one picture upon the licensing of another, although part of the decree which is stayed, still would involve a risk if practiced because it is outlawed by the decision. This risk would be, it is said, for the interim period, being from the time of the decision and the time the high court determines the case, and most necessarily if the high court upholds the decision on this point.

It is understood, however, that at least one company feels it could engage in block booking without violating the decision on this count, in that it would not mean that the sale of a film is a condition of a sale of another but that pictures are sold as a group for sake of convenience and a means of assurance of future product for an exhibitor.

A position on road shows was taken yesterday by James Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, who sees in the decree stay order an instrument eliminating any doubt as to the legality of that type of exhibition. He said that heretofore it was questionable whether an independent producer, such as Goldwyn, who retains all roadshow rights to his product, could have his picture so shown in an affiliated theatre.

Mulvey added he now plans to roadshow "Best Years of Our Lives" in whichever manner is suitable, either by sub-leasing theatres for the purpose or entering into licensing agreements.

13 More 'Yearling' Openings Are Set

M-G-M's Technicolor special, "The Yearling," has been set to open in four situations this month and nine next month, with the possibility of an increase in the number of opening dates in prospect, it was announced here yesterday by the company.

Three Loew theatres, in Cleveland, Houston and Washington, will open the picture today, and the United Artists Theatre in Portland, Ore., will begin April 15. Nine other Loew situations set to open on May 1, include theatres in Akron, Baltimore, Columbus, Dayton, New Orleans, Toledo, Buffalo, St. Louis and Kansas City. Also, following the run of "Sea of Grass," now current, "The Yearling" will be shown simultaneously at Fox West Coast's Egyptian, Wilshire and Los Angeles theatres in Los Angeles.

Seven More Pictures Rated by Legion

The National Legion of Decency has clasified the following films A-I: "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog," Film Classics; "For the Love of Rusty," Columbia; "St. Francis of Assisi" Azteca Films. Rated A-II are: "Copacabana," United Artists; "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," Warners, and "A Likely Story," RKO Radio.

Placed in Class B is the Charles Chaplin-United Artists "Monsieur Verdoux."

'Jolson' Ends in Seattle

SEATTLE, April 9.—"The Jolson Story" ended its record-breaking 102-day run at the Liberty Theatre here last night. The Columbia film played to 325,000 people, more than three-fourths of the Seattle population, and grossed a weekly average of $13,000, according to Leroy Johnson, manager of the Jensen and Von Herbert chain.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 71 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 1947 TEN CENTS

Prospects Are Brighter After Seasonal Drop

$16,769 Average Gross For Month in Key Runs

The usual seasonal drop in theatre grosses was more in evidence last month than for the same period in 1946, attributable in large measure to Lent and to inclement weather in many parts of the country, according to reports on some 170 key situations received from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents. But prospects for this month are brighter.

March's weekly average gross of $16,769 per theatre, although showing a slight recovery over the previous month's $16,680, compares with an average of

(*Continued on page 7*)

Eleven Theatres Are In Path of Tornado

OKLAHOMA CITY, April 10.—Film Row here is awaiting reports of the extent of damage to theatres in towns in the path of the tornado which tore through Texas and Oklahoma yesterday and today. With communications crippled by the storm, adding to the difficulties arising from the nationwide telephone strike, the damage sustained by motion picture houses is still a matter of speculation on Film Row here.

An estimated 11 theatres are located in towns and cities hit by the tornado late last night. In Texas the theatres include: the Alamo, at Higgins; the Palace in Canadian; the Crown, Lanora, Rex and State, in Pampa. The Oklahoma houses are: the Gage and Toy in Gage; Empress at Shattuck, and the Terry and Woodward in Woodward.

Says More Houses Needed for India

India's major film industry problem today is its lack of sufficient theatres, according to Mahomed-Akbar Fazalbhoy, managing director of Photophone Equipments, Ltd. of India, agents for RCA and National Theatre Supply Co. Fazalbhoy, in this country on a visit to look over new post-war equipment, said here yester-

(*Continued on page 7*)

N. J. Allied Plans June Seaboard Meet

Plans for a June convention of National Allied units in states bordering on the Atlantic Seaboard are being worked out by Allied of New Jersey, which will be host to the units. Included in the plans is a testimonial dinner in honor of Allied president Jack Kirsch.

The convention is tentatively scheduled to be held at the Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City.

Defeat Seen For N.J. Tax

It appeared yesterday that the Federation of New Jersey Theatre Owners may win by a "technical knockout" its fight against threatened state legislation which would empower coastal cities to levy three per cent theatre admission taxes.

Although Assembly Bill No. 27, which has been the particular target of the organization of New Jersey exhibitors and was primarily responsible for the formation of the tax-fighting Federation, has passed both the Assembly and Senate and is now before Gov. Driscoll, charges of an unfair vote count in the Assembly have prompted the Governor to recommend recall of the bill for a new Assembly roll call. It is declared that under New

(*Continued on page 7*)

U-I Will Localize Field Promotions On Future Product

Universal-International's field exploitation representatives will be given greater authority to develop key city promotion plans, in a new move to localize promotional showmanship, Maurice A. Bergman, U-I Eastern advertising and publicity director disclosed here yesterday as the company opened a two-day meeting of its field and home office promotion staffs with home office executives at the Hotel Astor.

Besides Bergman, speakers included William J. Heineman, general sales manager of the J. Arthur Rank division of U-I; J. B. L. (Pock) Lawrence, vice-president and public relations director of the J. Arthur Rank Organization in America; L. J. McGinley, sales manager, and Lawrence

(*Continued on page 6*)

5 Selznick Stars to Offer Summer Plays

Five film stars of David O. Selznick have established an actors' company to act in, manage and produce a series of plays this summer, it was disclosed here yesterday by Vanguard Films. Emphasizing that the players, including Joseph Cotten, Mel Ferrer, Jennifer Jones, Dorothy McGuire and Gregory Peck, in organizing the group, would have control of the undertaking,

(*Continued on page 7*)

Three Groups Ignore Gov't Picture Plan

Allied, PCCITO and CIEA Spurn Bid to Aid

Allied States, the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners and the Conference of Independent Exhibitors Associations have "pocket-vetoed" participating in the industry program to cooperate with the Government and charitable and other groups in showing their films.

While nine other exhibition, production and distribution groups have agreed to participate in the plan to facilitate the handling of approved films from outside the industry, the bid to Allied, PCCITO and CIEA to appoint representatives on the proposed 12-man coordinating committee still are unanswered, and industry interests here sponsoring the program now conclude that the three have

(*Continued on page 7*)

MPA Anniversary Dinner Postponed

The 25th anniversary dinner of the Motion Picture Association, scheduled for May 8 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here, has been postponed, with a new date unset. This was decided here yesterday at an executive MPA meeting presided over by Eric A. Johnston, president. Other industry events on or around May 8 which would conflict with the planned celebration were given as the reason for the postponement.

J. Arthur Rank, who was to have been a guest speaker at the dinner, will instead be entertained on May 8 by the MPA board.

Final Touches for Chaplin Premiere

The installation of $50,000 worth of new sound reproduction equipment, ordered by Charles Chaplin for the world premiere tonight of his new film, "Monsieur Verdoux," was completed yesterday at the Broadway Theatre by a crew of 50 technicians and electricians.

The New York house, which has been taken over by United Artists,

(*Continued on page 7*)

Indiana Theatremen Call '4-Wall' Deals 'Evasion'

INDIANAPOLIS, April 10.—The Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, Allied affiliates, has attacked the recently adopted plan of some producers to lease theatres for their key pictures, contending that such theatre leasings push up rentals as well as admissions.

The group says that, "a couple of months back we urged staunch resistance to the innovation of '4-wall' leasing, realizing that the experiment of the day would become the firmly established practice of the future."

ATOI further charges that "this evasion of the court decree is fast gaining ground and we believe it makes an open and shut case for complete divorcement. Besides forcing up admission prices this subterfuge also

(*Continued on page 7*)

Film Firms' Phone Systems Hold Up

Apart from a three-hour breakdown Wednesday afternoon in telephone operations at 20th Century-Fox's home office, phone systems of motion picture companies here are holding up well, a check-up disclosed yesterday on the fourth day of the nationwide strike of operators.

With suburban and long-distance calls barred by the emergency, local switchboards have had considerably lighter traffic.

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, president of RKO, will return to the Coast from New York today.

•

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, president of 20th Century-Fox, and MURRAY SILVERSTONE, president of 20th-Fox International, and their wives, are due in Rio de Janeiro over the weekend and are scheduled to return to the U. S. from their South American tour on April 26.

•

ROBERT S. WOLFF, RKO Radio's general manager in the United Kingdom, and JACK W. VOTION, European studio representative, will leave New York for Hollywood over the weekend.

•

EVELYN KOLEMAN, Republic's publicity manager, left here for Hollywood by plane yesterday to act as godmother at the christening of ROY ROGER'S son, ROY, JR.

•

GEORGE F. DEMBOW, National Screen's vice-president in charge of distribution, is recovering rapidly from his recent ankle injury.

•

ROBERT GILLHAM, Eastern advertising director for Vanguard Films and the Selznick Releasing Organization, left New York yesterday for Dallas.

•

JOHN J. O'CONNOR, Universal-International vice-president, will return to New York on Monday after a week's vacation.

•

GRADWELL SEARS, United Artists vice-president in charge of distribution, is expected to leave New York for London early next week.

•

CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ, Loew's vice-president and treasurer, left here yesterday for a Miami vacation.

•

DAN MICHALOVE, National Theatres vice-president, is due to return here from Florida next week.

•

WILLIAM RODGERS, vice-president in charge of sales for M-G-M, is due to return here from Detroit today.

Congressional Group To Coast in May

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The Congressional sub-committee to investigate Hollywood jurisdictional strikes and reported Communist activities in the movie industry will not leave Washington before late May, according to a member of the House Labor Committee and the House Un-American Activities Committee.

The group was scheduled to leave early this month, but committee members now believe that the trip will be postponed until labor legislation and other important activities are disposed of by Congress.

The committee, originally scheduled to consist of only one man, will probably have three members.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

MAJOR event of this day is the world premiere of Charlie Chaplin's first film in seven years. It's been that long between "The Great Dictator" and "Monsieur Verdoux." The lads at UA, thoroughly seasoned in advertising and publicity buildups before any film is conditioned for a key city bow, had their initial difficulties with Chaplin. He figured he could barge into the Big Town and get going in 72 hours, history and artistry being what they are. Thus, he originally planned a Broadway debut on the evening of Good Friday.

It didn't develop quite that way. As plainly and as persuasively as executives on salary may talk to a producer who also owns half of the company, they told him history and artistry were entitled to proper respect, but that the practicalities of marketing celluloid had some arguments to offer, too.

The outcome was a compromise, reasonably arrived at, on the premiere for this evening.

■

The Broadway, built by Ben Moss as the Colony, seats 1,900. "Verdoux," plus a short and newsreel, will run two hours and 20 minutes. Six shows a day will prevail beginning tomorrow, and five daily on Sunday. The mezzanine, seating 250, will be reserved at all times, each seat at $1.80 to be sold once for the matinee and once at $2.40 for the late evening show. How UA will clear out stragglers during the in-between performance remains to be demonstrated. They're hopeful, though.

The rest of the house, unreserved, will range from 90 cents to $1.80 during the week and rise to $2.40 for weekends and holidays on a price structure bearing close resemblance to "The Best Years of Our Lives" at the Astor. The Broadway is scaled for a maximum load of $60,000 a week, which is a lot of money. Incidentally, the Chaplin film might have been a tenant at the Rivoli if UA had not taken over the Broadway as its own showcase.

■

Chaplin's first appearance in New York in some time finds newspapers and other interviewers on his trail. It was first decided to confine the unburdenings to the *Times, Tribune* and one wire service. This appeared to be narrowing matters too seriously. As a result, Chaplin is the one who insisted upon a general press interview to be held Monday afternoon. It is understood UA officials did what they could to discourage the en masse cross-fire, pointing out Charlie would have to take on all comers including those who might be after answers as to why he never became an American citizen and his version of his alleged lack of cooperation in the war effort. Chaplin had an answer, which was: "I can handle it."

Monday will clinch it. Meanwhile, Chaplin, his snowy-white shock of curly hair attracting attention at "21" yesterday, reflected no lack of confidence in the outcome.

■ ■

Arthur W. Kelly continues to await official return to UA as a vice-president. At the outset, anyway, it is expected his duties will be confined to Chaplin's interests, up-and-coming among them supervision of sales of "Verdoux." Mary Pickford is believed to be looking elsewhere for a replacement to Ed Raftery, whose desire to return to his law practice is undiminished. She is of the viewpoint that the head of the company ought to be a well-known figure who has no committments, actual or inferential, with any person or with any interest beyond the company, *per se*.

■ ■

Floating in and out of the UA sector, there also is this:

"Henry V," to date, has returned $1,100,000 to the distributor out of 37 playdates, which means the surface hardly has been scratched.

The resentment is never open, but does prevail over credit for the current swing to multiple runs and four-wall theatre deals. Sources friendly to Grad Sears point out the multiple run gadget is old hat at UA—"The Fabulous Dorseys" was spotted in 51 simultaneous runs throughout Pennsylvania — and familiar, also, is the routine on four walls —example: "Henry Five."

The fact, of course, is that Sears did not invent either one although he makes no such claim. Both methods have been around for some time.

DICK HAYMES - VERA ELLEN
CESAR ROMERO - CELESTE HOLM
CARNIVAL in COSTA RICA
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
— PLUS ON STAGE —
CONNEE BOSWELL - BUSTER SHAVER
PETERS SISTERS - Extra! JACKIE MILES
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
RONALD COLMAN in
'THE LATE GEORGE APLEY'
Introducing PEGGY CUMMINS
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
THE MUSIC HALL'S
GREAT EASTER STAGE SHOW

FRANK BORZAGE'S
fast moving drama of love and excitement
"THAT'S MY MAN"
Starring
Don AMECHE • Catherine McLEOD
with
Roscoe KARNS Kitty IRISH
John RIDGELY Joe FRISCO
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Brandt's GLOBE B'WAY & 46th ST.

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
Laraine DAY · Brian AHERNE
Robert MITCHUM-Gene RAYMOND
'THE LOCKET' AN RKO RADIO PICTURE

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st B'way Showing!
WALLACE BEERY
'The MIGHTY McGURK'
IN PERSON
MICKEY ROONEY
LOUIS BASIL & LOEW'S STATESMEN
plus OTHERS

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTEN · ETHEL BARRYMORE
in
"The Farmer's Daughter"
An RKO Radio Picture
A DORE SCHARY Production
RIVOLI
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.
B'way at 49th St.

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

BOB HOPE
DOROTHY LAMOUR
in PARAMOUNT'S
"My Favorite Brunette"
with PETER LORRE
LON CHANEY
in Person!
JIMMY DORSEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PAT HENNING · LEW SHIRLEY
LOUIS JORDAN AND HIS TYMPANY FIVE
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies. 10c.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES P. CUNNINGHAM

HENRY FORD'S passing, this week, brings to mind his brush with the motion picture industry, back in 1915-1916, in connection with the peace vs. war politics of World War I—similarly a counterpart of those present post-war days of World War II.

Ford had begun to put his mind on peace, blue-printing a plan to get the boys out of the trenches by Christmas, when, on Dec. 1, 1915, Ford's pet Detroit was "bombed" by an airplane, laden with advertising matter for a motion picture, "The Battle Cry of Peace," a war film based on the book, "Defenseless America," war-inspired document by Hudson Maxim, munitions manufacturer. The picture starred Norma Talmadge.

Ford bought full-page advertisements in scores of leading newspapers all over the country, proclaiming that "The Battle Cry of Peace" was plain propaganda for the professional war merchants and munitions makers. Ford delivered his broadside at Maxim's book and the production, being distributed by Vitagraph (subsequently merged with Warners). Vitagraph sued Ford for one round million dollars. Whether it ever collected was not made known.

▽

Speculation prevailing at the time of the Academy Award presentation to Harold Russell, handless veteran, for his part in "The Best Years of Our Lives," can now be disposed of. Originally set to join Lynn Farnol's Goldwyn advertising staff, here, Russell will, instead, go back to Boston University, to complete a course in advertising.

▽

Tenor Lauritz Melchior was supposed to sing, the other night, in Bloomington, Indiana, but he didn't. It wasn't because he wasn't in Bloomington. He was. But in error he had gone to Bloomington, Illinois.

▽

Bruce Collins, vice-president of Robb and Rowley's Corpus Christie Theatres, addressing a company convention of theatre managers, stressed the value of adapting men and materials thusly: "A plain iron bar is worth $5. The same bar made into horseshoes is worth $10.50. The same bar made into needles is worth $3,285, and the same bar made into balance springs for watches is worth $250,000!

▽

Longest newspaper dateline of the year, on a New York Daily News *yarn by correspondent Robert Conway, from the Balkans:*

KASTONOFATO HEADQUARTERS, DEMOCRATIC ARMIES OF THE GRAMOS MOUNTAINS, MARCH 16 (DELAYED, VIA DONKEY, JEEP AND WIRELESS).

▽

The National Negro Congress has declared war on what it describes as Hollywood's insistency that the Negro in films fits into the following stereotypes: Savage African, happy slave, devoted servant, chicken and watermelon eater, corrupt politician, superstitious churchgoer, roustabout, uninhibited exhibitionist, crap-shooter, "mammy," pickaninny, etc.

NY Theatres to Aid Hospital Campaign

"The Forgotten Casualty," a film produced by Skouras Theatres' Community Service, will be shown in Skouras and other Metropolitan area theatres next week in connection with the $2,500,000 drive for the Institute of Rehabilitation and Physical Medicine of New York University's Bellevue Medical Center. The drive, which opens here on Monday, is to rehabilitate 23,000,000 disabled civilians, of whom 1,250,000 are in the New York area.

Without rehabilitation, the average disabled civilian earned $148 per year; with training, this figure rose to $1,768 per year, the committee discloses.

"The Forgotten Casualty" was viewed by President and Mrs. Truman in Washington last month, when Mrs. Truman opened the national campaign. It is narrated by Fredric March, and has also been made available by Skouras Theatres in 16mm. for showings at civic meetings, etc.

To Discuss Para. Claim vs. Brandt

Out-of-court settlement of the Paramount claim of inaccurate box office reports on percentage pictures by Brandt Theatres here is now slated to come up for discussion next week. Upon reaching an agreement, other negotiations will be conducted with RKO Radio, Loew's and Warners.

Meetings between Paramount and Brandt attorneys have been repeatedly postponed due to the illness of a Paramount auditor commissioned to compute the company's claimed revenue lost. Settlement negotiations between Brandt and 20th Century-Fox were concluded some months ago, with Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox president, acting as arbitrator.

Warner Asks Appeal In Joan Leslie Case

HOLLYWOOD, April 10. — Warner Brothers' counsel has requested a rehearing of its appeal from District Court Judge A. Paonessa's decision freeing Joan Leslie from a contract entered into while still a minor. The District Court of Appeals recently confirmed Paonessa's finding that a player attaining majority can void a contract made as a minor despite court approval given the pact by California statute.

Warner attorney Gordon Files said that the case would fix a precedent affecting so many similar contracts that the company will pursue its appeal to the highest court.

Liebeskind To Enter Production on Coast

Nat Liebeskind, former general manager for RKO Radio in South America, expects to enter production shortly in Hollywood. He is now liquidating his interest in eight theatres near Buenos Aires where he long maintained headquarters as representative for RKO Radio, for which company he originally established offices in Argentina and Brazil.

Liebeskind, now on an extended New York visit, is one of the veteran American distribution representatives in the foreign field and has been active in South America for 20 years.

New Broadway Date Is Set for 'Jolson'

Columbia's "The Jolson Story" will return to Broadway at the Victoria Theatre, following the run of the curdent film, "The Adventuress." This marks the first time a film will open an "encore engagement" at a Broadway first-run house at top prices immediately following its complete tour of the country, says Columbia.

In announcing the reopening, A. Montague, general sales manager, said the Victoria will be the only theatre in New York to show the film during its run here.

ATOI in Support of Salesmen Organizing

CHICAGO, April 10.—The Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, in the latest issue of its *Theatre Facts,* has come out in support of the organization of film salesmen.

The Indiana Allied group said that film salesmen will have the greatest problem in selling to exhibitors in non-competitive spots. "Without personal calls, much of this business will be lost and while we strongly advocate economy and a stop to the reckless extravagance in production, we think that cutting down salesmen is not an important source of savings and that it will react to the disadvantage of the company that practices it," the ATOI said.

Veteran Comedians To Be Feted Here

Comedians in the business for 25 years or more will be honored at a testimonial dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria on May 23 by the National Laugh Week Foundation. Proceeds will go to the *Herald Tribune* Fresh Air Fund.

Sponsors of the dinner include Spyros P. Skouras, Hal Roach, Sol Lesser, Lawrence Langner, Oscar Hammerstein II, Gene Buck, Brock Pemberton, Jim Farley, Fiorello La Guardia and Grover Whalen. Among those to be honored are: Charles Chaplin, Harold Lloyd, Groucho Marx.

Three More Branches For Shipping Service

KANSAS CITY, April 10.—E. E. Jameson, head of Central Shipping Bureau here, plans to set up branches in Denver and Oklahoma City, to serve those territories in the nationwide expansion program of National Film Service.

Also Harry Kahn is setting up a film shipping service in St. Louis to affiliate with the national organization, which has a deal to physically handle at least David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun."

80 Join Stamp Group

The Cinema Stamp Collectors here has taken on an international aspect, with 80 new members affiliated with the industry in France and Belgium joining the organization, according to Stanley Simmons who arranged for the induction. The foreign philatelists will be initiated by proxy next month upon the arrival here of their representative, Monique Bonnat, from Paris.

Coming Events

April 14—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, Charlotte.

April 14-18—Republic regional sales meeting, Hollywood.

April 14-15—Television executives meeting, Hotel Commodore, New York.

April 16—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, Salt Lake City.

April 20—Theatre Equipment and Supply Dealers meeting, Hotel Drake, Chicago.

April 21-22—North Central Allied convention, Minneapolis.

April 21—Edward M. Fay industry testimonial dinner sponsored by the Independent Theatre Owners of Rhode Island, Hotel Sheraton-Biltmore, Providence.

April 21—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, Albany.

April 21—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, at a special North Central Allied luncheon, Minneapolis.

April 21-25—Society of Motion Picture Engineers 61st semi-annual convention, Drake Hotel, Chicago.

April, third week—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, Pittsburgh.

April 23—Associated Motion Picture Advertisers luncheon-meeting, Hotel Astor, New York.

April 28—M-G-M division, district and branch managers meeting, Hotel Astor, New York.

U. S. Films Gain in Post-war Roumania

WASHINGTON, April 10.—American films enjoy greater popularity in Romania today than ever before, the U. S. Commerce Department reports. It adds that this is true despite the fact that few films have been available since the end of the war and most of those were of poor quality.

Prior to the war, the Department says, any good Hollywood feature was seen by a maximum of 35,000 during its first-run in Bucharest. Today an American production of the 1941-43 vintage will play in first-run theatres to more than 70,000.

At the end of the war, 250 to 280 American films came out of hiding, according to the Commerce Department, and some of these are still being played. Forty commercial pictures were distributed from a stock imported by the U. S. Information Service in the fall of 1945, and these are still playing the provinces.

Defeat Daylight Saving

MILWAUKEE, April 10. — Daylight saving in Wisconsin was snowed under by a two-to-one vote in a statewide advisory referendum. Theatres of the state joined farming and agricultural associations in fighting the legislation, with the rural areas almost solidly opposing the optional summer time schedule change.



RONALD COLMAN
in "THE LATE
GEORGE APLEY"
with Vanessa Brown
Richard Haydn
Charles Russell
Richard Ney
Edna Best · Mildred Natwick
Percy Waram · Nydia Westman
and introducing
PEGGY CUMMINS
Directed by
JOSEPH L. MANKIEWICZ
Produced by
FRED KOHLMAR
Screen Play by Philip Dunne
From the Play by John P. Marquand
and George S. Kaufman · Based on
the Pulitzer Prize Novel by
John P. Marquand

THE WHOLE INDUSTRY IS CALLING IT THE *Grea*

BOOMERANG!* • *13 RUE MADELEINE* • *THE LATE GEORGE APL

CENTURY-FOX LEADING WAY
OF ALL COAST STUDIOS!"
—ALTON COOK, N.Y. WORLD TELEGRAM

"THE LATE GEORGE APLEY" 1st WEEK AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL TOPS RECORD 20th CENTURY-FOX FIGURES OF "ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM"!

"BRILLIANT! SUPERB! A TREASURE OF A FILM!"
—KATE CAMERON, N.Y. DAILY NEWS

"THE LATE GEORGE APLEY" 2nd WEEK AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL TOPS THE 20th CENTURY-FOX RECORD OF THE 1st!

"ONE OF THE SEASON'S RICHEST OFFERINGS!"
—EILEEN CREELMAN, N.Y. SUN

3rd WEEK OF "THE LATE GEORGE APLEY" TOPS EVERY RECORD FOR EVERY DAY OF 1st AND 2nd WEEKS!

EORGE APLEY FROM *Great* 20 CENTURY-FOX

• ***THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR*** • ***THE HOMESTRETCH*** *In Technicolor*



Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

MINNEAPOLIS

"My Favorite Brunette" opened well and "The Best Years" still is running strong. Others eased off in bleak, rainy weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 10:

BEDELIA (Eagle-Lion)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,300)

DEVIL ON WHEELS (PRC)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,400)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, on a moveover from the Radio City. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,600)

SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $14,500)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RKO PAN (1,500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.50) 4th week. Gross: $19,000. (Average at regular admission rates of 50c-70c: $8,500)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

Business has responded, but results still are spotty. While "The Egg and I" is giving Keith's its best week of the season, "It Happened in Brooklyn" and "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim" are below expectations. Bad weather at the start changed for the better over the weekend. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 9-12:

THE AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE (Rep.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (48c-72c) 7 days, with Tex Beneke band on the stage. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $18,500)

THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM (20th-Fox) and A CHILD OF DIVORCE (RKO Radio)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,200)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $6,500)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M) and SO DARK THE NIGHT (Col.)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,800)

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c) 7 days, on a moveover from the Indiana. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,700)

TORONTO

With showery weather the only discordant note, Toronto's first-runs enjoyed big business with Easter attractions. The one holdover, at two theatres, played to better patronage in the third week over the previous six days. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 10-11:

LADIES MAN (Para.)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $5,400. (Average: $5,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,100. (Average: $7,800)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $19,300. (Average: $14,300)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN -(M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c 35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $18,300. (Average: $13,800)

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $19,300. (Average: $14,800)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,500)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-25c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $16,400. (Average: $11,400)

LADIES' MAN (Para.)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $7,700. (Average: $6,800)

U-I Will Localize

(*Continued from page* 1)

A. Audrain, advertising-publicity head of the Prestige Pictures department of U-I; B. G. Kranze, assistant general sales manager of the Rank division; Monroe Greenthal, head of the Greenthal Advertising Agency; Seymour Morris, advertising and publicity head of the Schine circuit; and Henry A. (Hank) Linet, U-I Eastern advertising manager.

Bergman pointed out that closer cooperation between exhibitors and the U-I East and West Coast publicity departments will be realized by the company's new methods of localizing advertising and publicity in conjunction with national advertising-publicity campaigns.

Key Cities to Be Studied

A complete study of all key cities in relation to newspapers and radio will be undertaken during the next three months with the company's field men being given authority to develop territorial plans formulated in the home office, Bergman explained.

Emphasis will be placed on the Rank productions "Odd Man Out," "Great Expectations" and "My Heart Goes Crazy," soon to be released, as well as "Stairway to Heaven" and "Wicked Lady," now in release, so that each key city will have special advertising-publicity campaigns embracing all media.

In this connection, Bergman revealed that although the entire Eastern advertising-publicity departments will work on the Rank productions, a specialized unit will be developed in the home office and in the field to create special promotional projects for these pictures.

In line with general advertising plans for all U-I and Rank productions, U-I field men will work out special cooperative advertising campaigns on each picture. As a preliminary to this general policy, Linet will visit a number of cities to work directly with field men and exhibitors. This is expected to result in higher expenditures for day-and-date advertising since theatres will be asked to share in increased cooperative advertising campaigns, he predicted.

Future Rank Promotion

Heineman discussed future plans for release of the Rank productions, citing that an appropriation of $1,000,000 is being spent on advertising, publicity and promotion in America on "Wicked Lady," "Stairway to Heaven," "Odd Man Out," "Great Expectations" and "My Heart Goes Crazy."

Lawrence told the meeting about the recent reorganization of the Rank advertising-publicity set-ups in England to further facilitate the forwarding of special material directly from the Rank studios to the U-I publicity department.

Morris declared that distributors should not neglect small towns to increase their revenues.

The meeting will continue today with William A. Scully, U-I vice-president and general sales manager, addressing a luncheon session. Al Horwits, Eastern publicity manager, will explain the company's new coordinated publicity plans today.

E-L Names P.A. Lewis N. Y. Office Manager

Peter A. Lewis has joined Eagle-Lion here as office manager and purchasing agent, effective immediately.

Lewis has been in the industry since 1925, when he joined the New York Film Board as an investigator. He later became head of the board's investigation department. He also worked in the field for the Copyright Protection Bureau in 1929, and returned here in 1935 to head the investigation department of the New York Film Board.

Film Classics Adds J. Miller Upstate

Joseph Miller has been named Albany and Buffalo sales supervisor by Sam Wheeler, Film Classics sales manager. Miller was formerly Albany manager for Columbia and more recently was district manager for Producers Releasing.

Film Classics is preparing to handle new independent productions, in addition to the re-releases which it distributes. The first will be "The Patient Vanishes," a Pathe film.

Chas. Skouras Due in Fla.

HOLLYWOOD, April 10.—Charles Skouras, head of National Theatres, is scheduled to leave here to join Dan Michalove, National Theatres vice-president, and Joseph M. Schenck, 20th Century-Fox production executive, in Miami over the weekend.

Chaplin Premiere

(*Continued from page* 1)

had its projection and sound equipment removed when Chaplin decided he wanted a new system installed for his film.

The opening will be attended by top personalities from society, business, screen and stage worlds, the list including the following from the industry: Mary Pickford, Edward C. Raftery, Hal Roach, Gradwell L. Sears, Arthur W. Kelly, Jack Cohn, Lee Shubert, George Skouras, Martha Raye, Vera Zorina, Louella Parsons, Gregory Ratoff, and others.

A special radio program over Station WMCA will "cover" the premiere.

Quimby's Winning Cartoon Here

M-G-M's Academy Award-winning Tom and Jerry Cartoon, "The Cat Concerto," produced by Fred Quimby, will open today with Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux" at the Broadway Theatre here.

5 Selznick Stars

(*Continued from page* 1)

Daniel T. O'Shea, Vanguard president, said the studio would participate only to the extent of giving help and advice.

Each of the actors will appear in at least one production during the first season. Robert Ross will be Eastern representative of the company, temporarily, and will visit the Coast this summer to assist the group in preliminary plans. The company has already engaged a playhouse at La Jolla, Cal., for a minimum of six weeks during July and August.

The schedule of the unit also calls for guest appearances of other Selznick players.

Box-Office Prospects Bright

(*Continued from page* 1)

$17,788 reported for March, 1946.

However, the current month thus far holds considerable promise of a box-office come-back, with a number of new films, notably "The Egg and I," demonstrating considerable strength. Box-office accomplishments of the new films will be reflected in the next monthly field report.

"The Best Years of Our Lives" appeared most often as the box-office leader in reports for last month, followed by "The Jolson Story," the leader of the previous month, and "My Favorite Brunette," a new contender for box-office honors.

Also coming through as weekly leaders in a number of situations were: "Sinbad the Sailor," "Nora Prentiss" and "The Beginning or the End," while pronounced pulling power was shown variously by "California," "Humoresque," "Bedelia," "Lady in the Lake," "It's a Wonderful Life," "Dead Reckoning," "The Secret Heart," "The Razor's Edge," "Song of Sheherazade," "Boomerang!," "The Red House," "The Chase," "Stone Flower" (Russian), "Stairway to Heaven," "Duel in the Sun," "Pursued," and "The Yearling."

Also, "Smash-Up," "Song of the South," "San Quentin," "Swell Guy," "The Locket," "Ladies' Man," "Johnny O'Clock," "The Return of Monte Cristo," "Crime Doctor's Manhunt," "Abie's Irish Rose," "Never Say Goodbye," "Carnival in Costa Rica," "It Happened in Brooklyn," "13 Rue Madeleine," and "Beat the Band."

Composite key city box-office reports for 1947 to date, compared with corresponding weeks of 1946, follow:

1947 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 3-4	167	$3,678,100	$22,024
Jan. 10-11	173	3,363,200	19,440
Jan. 17-18	173	3,007,300	17,383
Jan. 24-25	176	3,043,700	17,294
Jan. 31-Feb. 1	181	3,293,600	18,197
Feb. 7-8	177	3,089,600	17,495
Feb. 14-15	177	2,767,900	15,638
Feb. 21-22	182	3,042,700	16,718
Feb. 28-Mar. 1	166	2,800,300	16,869
Mar. 7-8	178	2,906,400	16,328
Mar. 14-15	174	2,890,300	16,610
Mar. 21-22	173	2,922,900	16,895
Mar. 28-29	178	3,069,500	17,245

1946 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 4-5	142	$3,304,300	$23,270
Jan. 11-12	144	2,940,100	20,417
Jan. 18-19	150	2,706,300	18,040
Jan. 25-26	158	2,800,100	17,722
Feb. 1-2	157	2,227,000	18,390
Feb. 8-9	158	2,798,300	17,756
Feb. 15-16	159	2,755,400	17,330
Feb. 22-23	156	2,638,200	16,918
Mar. 1-2	164	3,106,000	18,939
Mar. 8-9	163	2,926,600	17,955
Mar. 15-16	154	2,818,800	18,304
Mar. 22-23	165	2,981,100	18,067
Mar. 29-30	167	2,810,300	16,828

Hit '4-Wall' Deals

(*Continued from page* 1)

extracts terms that ordinarily would even embarrass a film salesman to ask for. In one Philadelphia theatre, after paying rent and overhead, the producer gives the exhibitor a cut of the gross that starts at 10% and goes up to 12½%. 'Best Years of Our Lives' and 'Henry V' are two pictures being sold in this manner, with 'Carnegie Hall' and 'Arch of Triumph' probably coming up."

ATOI also contends that the distributors are "perverting that section of the decree dealing with competitive bidding in order to use it for their own selfish ends." The Indiana Allied group said "that as long as producers and distributors do not have the spirit and the intent to deal fairly with their customers, the efforts of courts to establish fair trade practices is like trying to carry water in a sieve. There are just too many holes to patch up," Indiana Allied added.

New Jersey Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

Jersey legislative procedure the bill would have to be re-introduced under a new number, and, since the legislature is scheduled to adjourn sometime next week, there is said to be insufficient time to permit even another Assembly vote since the bill would first have to be assigned to committee and, if reported out, then be subject to a number of "readings" before a vote is taken.

Notwithstanding the possibility that, under the vote-protest action, the bill will not become law this year, the Federation, taking no chances, is planning to hold another meeting in Trenton at the Stacy-Trent Hotel on Monday to strengthen further its organized attack.

Says More Houses

(*Continued from page* 1)

day that there is an immediate need in his country for 1,000 new theatres, which, he expects will be constructed in the next two years, conditions permitting.

At present, he said there are about 1,800 houses in India, which he hopes eventually will grow to 5,000. All houses, he reported, play to capacity. He observed that motion pictures constitute the only large-scale form of entertainment for the masses, because the number of radio stations is limited and legitimate theatres are very few.

Film studios of the country produce about 400 pictures a year, he declared, and India's own product is most popular. Of foreign films exhibited, however, American films predominate.

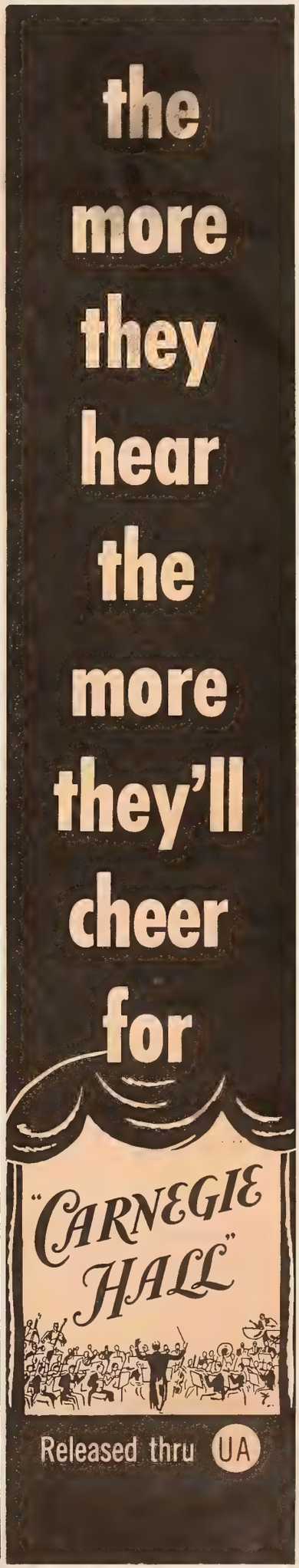
Also here in the party of film representatives from India are Mehboob Kahn, producer and owner of Mehboob Productions, and W. P. Sarathy of Pakshiraja Studios, both of whom are studying American methods of production.

Reject Gov't Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

"pocket-vetoed" it. The three were approached last November by Si Fabian, interim chairman.

The nine participating groups and their respective representatives are: American Theatres Association, Fabian; Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, Donald Nelson; Motion Picture Association, Francis Harmon; Confederacy of Southern Associations, R. B. Wilby; National Distributors Committee, Tom Connors; Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, Herman Levy; Newsreels, Michael Clofine; Independent Theatre Owners Association (New York), Harry Brandt, and the trade press, whose representative is to be elected.





U-I's "The Egg and I" has them saying ♪♪ Sunny-Side Up! ♫♫

KANSAS CITY
Uptown
Esquire
Fairway
All-time Sunday house record smashed!

DETROIT
Fox
Doubled previous Universal top grosser!

LOS ANGELES
Bruin
United Artists
Ritz
Carthay Circle
Studio
Iris
Six theatres combined for day-and-date opening to take care of crowds!

INDIANAPOLIS
Keiths
All day line. Thousands turned away—but coming back!

CINCINNATI
Keith's
Nothing like it in the history of the theatre. Topped everything!

CALIFORNIA
SANTA ANA
Broadway
RIVERSIDE
De Anza
Biggest holiday business in years!

LOUISVILLE
National
Even a hail-storm couldn't stop a new house-record!

OKLAHOMA CITY
Home
A new high mark to shoot at. Terrific!

LONG BEACH, Cal.
West Coast Crest
The theatres weren't big enough to hold crowds!

TORONTO
Uptown
SRO for every performance!

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.
Playhouse
Turned them away all day long!

Watch the scramble to see ...

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL presents
Claudette COLBERT Fred MacMURRAY
in BETTY MacDONALD'S
"The EGG and I"
with MARJORIE MAIN
LOUISE ALLBRITTON PERCY KILBRIDE
BILLY HOUSE RICHARD LONG

From the Best-Selling Book by Betty MacDonald

Produced and Written for the Screen by CHESTER ERSKINE and FRED F. FINKLEHOFFE Directed by CHESTER ERSKINE A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL PICTURE

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 51. NO. 72 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, APRIL 14, 1947 TEN CENTS

Canadian Co. Made Record Profit in 1946

Famous Players Earned Almost Twice Its '45 Net

TORONTO, April 13.—The net profit of the Famous Players Canadian Corp. reached an all-time high in 1946 of $2,834,956, according to the annual financial statement released at the weekend. This total was equal to $1.63 on each of the 1,737,072 common shares and compared with $1,594,973, the 1945 net, which equalled 91 cents per share.

During 1945 an indebtedness of $5,500,000 was paid off through the sale of 750,000 common shares. The operating profit of $5,599,284 last year compared with $5,123,790 in the preceding 12 months, while current assets last December totaled over $8,000,000.

President J. J. Fitzgibbons has announced that construction of 10 new theatres is under way.

Lesser Returns To Exhibition

Sol Lesser returns to exhibition, after many years in production with the formation of Standard Theatres, Inc., which will build and operate theatres on the West Coast where he has already acquired sites in Burbank, Bellflower and Indio, Cal. Others are in process of negotiation. Lesser is president of Standard, but he will not forego his production activities.

Lesser originally started in exhibition as a circuit operator, expanding his properties into the sizeable West Coast Theatres, now a part of National Theatres, owned by 20th Century-Fox.

Fabian Ending WB Pool in Upstate N. Y.

Last of Fabian Theatres' pools with affiliates, one with Warners involving seven theatres in Albany and Troy, N. Y., is now in the process of dissolution, Si Fabian disclosed here on Friday. He said the pool with Paramount in Middletown, N. Y., was dissolved recently.

Rank's Worldwide Assets Valued at $200,000,000

LONDON, April 13.—Total assets of the J. Arthur Rank interests are valued at $200,000,000, it is reported by the British *Directory of Directors.* In the film world alone, the British industry leader has a major interest in over 80 companies, controls 545 British theatres, and has a current payroll embracing some 33,000 film employes.

The history of the Rank organization, it was said, dates back to 1935, and the vast combine has been controlled by Rank through his Manorfield Investments, Ltd. There are, the report continues, 11 Rank finance holding companies. Thirteen companies cover the studio, laboratory and production fields; 15 distribution companies account for the circulation of Rank product in Britain and expanding world markets. There are 16 exhibition companies and 23 other organizations for equipment, 16mm. films, etc.

Additionally, there are 12 companies associated by special agreements with the J. Arthur Rank Organization. Among these are American distributors, the African Consolidated Theatres, Greater Union Theatres of Australia, and others.

NYC Owners Irked At Bid for Fee Rise

Indignation and resentment ran high in New York City exhibition circles at the weekend over a published proposal that the annual license fee for motion picture theatres here be increased to $500 per year to aid the city in its current drive for additional revenue.

The proposal, published in Friday's *New York Times,* was quoted as having been volunteered by "a prominent showman." The consensus of opinion among the city's exhibitors is that the unidentified party "must be a legitimate stage representative," although James F. Reilly, executive director of

(*Continued on page 7*)

20th Stay Program Waits for Skouras

Sales policies which 20th Century-Fox will follow officially in light of the U. S. Supreme Court's stay of the industry anti-trust suit decree, are expected to be formulated at the end of the month at a company "high-command" huddle in the home office.

Company deliberation of possible policies has been postponed until the return to New York of 20th-Fox president Spyros P. Skouras who, in company with 20th-Fox International president Murray Silverstone, has been touring Latin America for the past several weeks. Now in Rio de Janeiro, they are due to return to the U. S. on April 26.

"Monsieur Verdoux"

[*Charles Chaplin-United Artists*]—Better with Baggy Pants

IN HIS first film since 1940 and "The Great Dictator," Charlie Chaplin is looking at Life and finds it demands one long series of cynical, indifferent and calloused murders.

Written by him and produced and directed and starred by him, "Monsieur Verdoux" in many ways reflects more of the philosophies and morbidities of the French school of film making than it resembles Hollywood. This is not necessarily detrimental, of course, but at once it raises questions about the mass appeal which a Chaplin film or any other film must achieve in order to be a striking sucess in the American market.

If it should be correct, as oft-reported, that Chaplin has ambition to play the tragedian, it is also correct to observe he gets closer to this in his new film than at any other time in his long and brilliant career. This time, he is not the Chaplin of "Modern Times" or of "The Great Dictator" and, most emphatically, he is not the great comedian of the Mutual and First National eras. Those who expect to roll in the aisles will have to get their rolling out of three sequences, principally.

One is when Charlie's poison potion gets switched and he thinks he, not Martha Raye, is about to die. Another is a second murder attempt in a row boat. Third sequence concerns an interrupted wedding with Isobel Elsom, a potential victim, when Miss Raye unexpectedly shows

(*Continued on page 6*)

MGM Aims to Hold Bids at Present Level

Offering Product Split To Settle New Issues

By GENE ARNEEL

Unless situations involving legal considerations present themselves, such as a reasonable demand for a run by an exhibitor, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer will continue its competitive bidding operations only in the 50 areas where that selling method has been introduced to date, an authoritative source discloses.

Expansion of the bidding program thus would be confined to houses in substantial competition, of equal revenue-producing stature, asking for M-G-M product. However, M-G-M will still seek to eliminate the necessity of bidding by encouraging a split of its product on an equitable basis for competing theatremen. If the latter fail to reach an agreement, the company will conduct bidding.

M-G-M feels that this policy will considerably reduce the likelihood of

(*Continued on page 7*)

Ballyhoo Best, Says Scully

Distributors and exhibitors should get back to the tried and true methods of traditional ballyhoo to sell pictures, William A. Scully, Universal-International vice-president and general sales manager, told the company's home office and field promotion staffs at their meeting at the Hotel Astor here on Friday. Maurice A. Bergman, U-I Eastern advertising-publicity director, presided.



William A. Scully

Besides Scully speakers at Friday's sessions included A. J. O'Keefe, assistant general sales manager; C. J. Feldman, Western division sales manager; Fred Meyers, Eastern division sales manager;

(*Continued on page 7*)

Personal Mention

C. J. SCOLLARD, Paramount labor relations director, left New York at the weekend for Hollywood.

•

DR. ISADOR LUBIN, president of Confidential Reports and member of the board of directors of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial, participated in services for the late President at Hyde Park on Saturday.

•

CLAIRE BRAGER, daughter of LOUIS R. BRAGER, Warner Theatres executive, was married yesterday at the Hampshire House here, to HOWARD M. SEIFTER.

•

ALBERT DEANE, Paramount International's manager of censorship-editing here, is due to arrive in New York tomorrow from Australia.

•

STEVE FITZGIBBONS, JR., is due in New York from Boston today in company with MICKEY ANDELMAN. Friday was FITZ's birthday.

•

MORRIS HELPRIN, U. S. representative of London Films, was scheduled to leave here by plane yesterday for London.

•

SAMUEL WHEELER, Film Classics' sales manager, has left New York for Indianapolis, St. Louis and Chicago.

•

BILL BLOWITZ, publicity director of Enterprise, returned to Hollywood from New York Friday.

•

EDWARD MOREY, Monogram vice-president, has returned to New York from Washington.

•

BENEDICT BOGEAUS, producer. left Hollywood by train for New York at the weekend.

Promotion Set for Mono.'s 'Conquest'

An extensive pre-release advertising-publicity-exploitation campaign to be built around Monogram-Allied Artists' forthcoming "High Conquest," was outlined here by Morey Goldstein, general sales manager, during a regional meeting of Eastern Monogram branches at the Warwick Hotel, held on Saturday and yesterday, and attended by 25 company and branch executives.

Large-scale advertising and an augmented field exploitation staff will be utilized in the campaign, it was reported by Goldstein, who presided at the meetings. Other speakers included Edward Morey, Monogram vice-president, and Arthur Greenblatt, Eastern sales manager.

The meetings dealt also with sales plans for three other forthcoming Allied Artists productions: "Black Gold," "Tragic Symphony," and "The Gangster," each said to be budgeted at over $1,000,000.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

MARY PICKFORD's disclosure last week that United Artists has acquired five theatres of late prompted this department to thumb through the New York court's decision and decree to determine what bearing either or both might have on the matter.

Insofar as we could discover, there is nothing in the decision which prohibits the acquisition of theatres by United Artists. The decision frowns only upon the joint ownership of theatres by defendants with others, where defendants' interests are more than five per cent and less than 95 per cent.

The decree appears to be even more explicit with respect to a theatre acquisition program by United Artists or, for that matter, by Columbia or Universal. Decree restraints upon theatre ownership and acquisition are addressed only to the present five theatre-owning defendants. They alone are named in Subdivision III of the decree.

Casual inquiries among legal acquaintances brought informal confirmation of the above.

Even further research, going back to various contentions of the Department of Justice with respect to affiliated theatre divorcement, failed to elicit anything that specifically covered United Artists. The Department refers again and again to the divorcement of exhibition from production and distribution. United Artists, being a distributor, not a producer-distributor, would appear to be in the clear as a theatre operator even in the eyes of the prosecutor.

• •

There appears to be very little inclination among distributors to resume road showings (except in their own theatres) despite the stay of the New York court decree.

Price-fixing was found to be illegal in the New York court decision, which is not affected by the stay. That means that unless there is a reversal of the New York decision by the Supreme Court on appeal, price fixing still will be illegal and defendants engaging in road showings (other than in their own theatres) would be liable to civil suits for triple damages. Not many think it's worth the gamble.

The same applies to block booking, to certain systems of clearance, to formula deals and master agreements, all of which, though now stayed by the Supreme Court, nevertheless were held to be invalid by the New York court.

As this department endeavored to explain last week, any defendant who wishes to do so, may go ahead and resort to any of those presently invalid practices without danger of being held in contempt. That is all the protection that the stay affords, for while it stays the decree it does not alter the decision.

But to engage in those practices held to be invalid is to gamble that the company so doing is right and the influential three-judge New York court was wrong when it made its decision.

•

Single picture selling is advisable, certainly, because block booking was held to be invalid and conditioning of the licensing of one picture on the licensing of another, always a difficult thing to avoid in block booking, has been enjoined.

However, the stay of competitive bidding is a complete legal safeguard in itself for any company which does not wish to engage in that method of licensing. It was proposed by the court not as the only legal method of licensing pictures but solely as an alternative to affiliated theatre divorcement.

Regardless of the legal safety of ignoring competitive bidding, however, it is more than certain that most of the defendant distributors will continue it, although perhaps only experimentally, as heretofore. It is strategically sound to do so. It offers the opportunity to the distributor and his personnel to familiarize themselves with the system, to gain experience with it in practice which will prove extremely valuable, both economically and legally, should the system be upheld by the Supreme Court.

In addition, for theatre owning defendants, it offers the opportunity to reduce bidding from a theory to an actuality. If it proves to be what its judicial authors obviously believe it could be, the experience with it could be vital later on in countering the government's appeal that it is an unacceptable alternative for divorcement.

That suggests, too, the stake that most companies have in seeing to it that competitive bidding is administered with the utmost fairness.

Newsreel Parade

AMONG events coming in for newsreel attention in current issues are President Truman meeting film industry representatives, the death of Henry Ford and funeral rites for the King of Greece. Other items include the Dionne Quintuplets, Babe Ruth and assorted human interest stories. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 65—Volcano in Iceland erupts after 100 years of silence. Greeks pay homage to King George in Athens funeral. Henry Ford, pioneer of auto industry, dead at 83. U. S. Navy observes 47th birthday of its first submarine. Famous Dionnes are five bridesmaids at brother's wedding. Babe Ruth takes job to help boys playing baseball. Deer damage farm crops and are chased by plane.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 263—Death of Henry Ford. DeGaulle sees France with U. S. against tyranny. President meets film chiefs. The man who stole a bus. Dionne Quints at first wedding. Leo Durocher suspended. Submarines on parade. Greeks mourn king.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 66—Babe Ruth gets a new job. Five famous bridesmaids. Truman praises film industry's foreign program. Nation pays tribute to submarines. Henry Ford, 1863-1947. Leo Durocher suspended.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 68—Athens mourns dead king. Asians meet in national Congress. Truman reviews Army parade. Henry Ford dead at 83. Errant bus reaches goal. DeGaulle at Strasbourg.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 29—Henry Ford died at 83. Latest type submarine stages maneuver at New London. Quintuplets officiate as bridesmaids at wedding of brother. Last rites for King of Greece. Antarctic Coast Guard ice breaker arrives in U. S. with whimsical penguins. Mule is king for a day at Columbia, Tenn. College rodeo at Austin, Tex. Winter ski exhibition at Miami.

Haines in St. Louis For Warner Meeting

ST. LOUIS, April 13.—Roy Haines, Western division sales manager for Warner Brothers, arrived here today to conduct a meeting of the Prairie district today in connection with the company's 1947 sales drive. Haines was accompanied by Bill Brumberg, manager of the field exploitation staff and captain of this year's campaign.

Participating in the session will be district manager Hall Walsh; branch managers Lester Bona, St. Louis; Frank J. Hannon, Omaha; Russell C. Borg, Kansas City, and D. P. Webster, Des Moines, and field man Don Walker.

Haines will leave here Tuesday for Minneapolis and Chicago. Brumberg will return to New York.

Goldenson to Talk At Foundation Meet

ALBANY, N. Y., April 13.—Leonard Goldenson, vice-president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., New York, will be guest speaker at an area organization meeting of the Motion Picture Foundation, at the Ten Eyck Hotel, on April 21.

"The Foundation will help those who have served the industry," S. J. Ullman, chairman, said in a letter of invitation. Ullman is local upstate general manager of Fabian Theatres. Chick Lewis will also speak.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies 10c.

Coast Filming Increases; Total Hits 39

HOLLYWOOD, April 13.—Production activity has turned upward, with the shooting index going up to 39 from the previous level of 34. Work was started on seven pictures, and two were completed. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "Sweet Genevieve," with Jean Porter, Jimmy Lydon, Gloria Marlen and Ralph Hodges; "Blondie in the Dough," with Penny Singleton, Arthur Lake, Larry Simms and Marjorie Kent.

Shooting: "The Man from Colorado," "Assigned to Treasury" (Kennedy-Buchman).

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: "Out of the Blue," "Love from a Stranger."

M-G-M

Shooting: "The Pirate," "Good News."

Monogram

Started: "The Hunted," with Belita, Barry Sullivan, Cathy Carter and J. Farrell MacDonald.

Shooting: "Song of the Wasteland," (formerly "Song of the Saddle"), "Kilroy Was Here," "High Tide" (Wrather).

Paramount

Shooting: "The Big Clock."

PRC

Started: "Pioneer Justice," with Lash LaRue, Fuzzy St. John, Jennifer Holt; "Gas House Kids Go West," with Carl (Alfalfa) Switzer, Benny Bartlett, Tommy Bond.

RKO Radio

Finished: "Crossfire."

Started: "Memory of Love," with Dana Andrews, Merle Oberon, Ethel Barrymore, Hoagy Carmichael and Arthur Rubinstein; "Dick Tracy vs. the Gruesome Gang," with Ralph Byrd, Boris Karloff and Anne Gwynne.

Shooting: "Mourning Becomes Electra," "Fighting Father Dunne," "Tycoon."

Republic

Shooting: "Along the Oregon Trail," "The Outcast," "Complex" (Wilder).

Selznick

Shooting: "The Paradine Case," "Portrait of Jennie."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Kiss of Death," "Scudda Hoo, Scudda Hay," "Captain from Castile."

United Artists

Shooting: "Atlantis" (Nero).

Universal-International

Finished: "Jeopardy."

Shooting: "For the Love of Mary," "Singapore," "Secret Beyond the Door" (Diana); "Brute Force" (Hellinger); "Lost Love" (Wanger).

Dewey Lauds AMPA On 30th Anniversary

Gov. Thomas E. Dewey has congratulated the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers for helping to raise the standards of film advertising, on its 30th anniversary, which will be observed with a dinner-dance at the Astor Hotel here on April 23.

Among other public figures who have sent congratulatory letters are President Truman and Mayor O'Dwyer.

Television Parley Opens Here Today

Television developments will be discussed by 51 persons at the two-day "Television Institute" which opens this morning at the Hotel Commodore here. On display will be receivers from Radio Corporation of America, Du Mont, U. S. Television and Telicon.

Many topics of interest to the motion picture industry are scheduled to be covered in the panels. "Putting Showmanship into Television" will be discussed by Max Fleischer, film cartoon producer.

J. R. Poppele, president of the Television Broadcasters Association, will be guest speaker at today's luncheon, with other speakers, including C. E. Hooper, Clara Burke and David P. Lewis. Guests of honor will include Dr. Allen B. DuMont, Dr. Lee de Forest, Ernest B. Loveman, Paul Raibourn, George Shupert, Worthington C. Miner, Ralph Austrian and Will Baltin.

WB Claims Priority On 20th's Spy Title

HOLLYWOOD, April 13.—Jack Warner has announced that his studio registered "The Iron Curtain" with the Motion Picture Association title bureau in New York on January 7, 1946. A spokesman for Darryl F. Zanuck, who last week announced plans for a Russian spy film under that title, says that the 20th Century-Fox production head, has "no comment."

A Warner spokesmen disclaimed knowledge of the subject matter of WB's "Curtain," on which he said the "studio has been working secretly" since the title was registered.

Warners Put Pepper In Puerto Rico Post

James A. Pepper, formerly manager for Warner Brothers in Peru, has been transferred to Puerto Rico in a similar capacity by Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of Warner International. Pepper will make his headquarters in San Juan. He succeeds Jack McHugh, who resigned to return to California.

Herbert Fletcher has been named by Cohen to take over in Peru with headquarters in Lima.

Warners

Shooting: "Treasure of the Sierra Madre," "Whiplash," "Voice of the Turtle," "Two Guys from Texas," "Wallflower."

Enterprise Drives On Agenda Here

Plans for promotion of Enterprise pictures and, more specifically, for the New York premiere of "The Other Love" at the Rivoli on April 30, following completion of the run of "The Farmer's Daughter," will be the subjects of conferences here during the next three weeks. Roadshow arrangements for "Arch of Triumph" and negotiations to have two planes fly to Paris with U. S. press representatives and stars in connection with the opening of "Arch" there are also on the agenda.

Charles Einfeld, head of Enterprise, arrived here Friday from the Coast, to join Robert S. Taplinger, advertising-publicity head, who came here on the previous day. Discussions will be held by them with David Loew, chairman of the board, and George J. Schaefer, distribution chief. Advertising and promotion campaigns for "Body and Soul" will also be blueprinted.

It was also learned that Charles Boyer's second picture for Enterprise will be "The Passion of Eugene Arams," the Edward Bulwer Lytton novel in which he will play a noted scholar of the 18th Century who becomes involved in a murder case. Ladislas Fodor will adapt the story for the screen.

4-Way Package Deal On 'Royal Mounted'

HOLLYWOOD, April 13. — What is described as a new entertainment innovation will bring together four mediums: films, radio, television and comic strip, in a deal whereby N. W. Ayer, advertising agency, has taken options in behalf of all of its clients on a combination radio-and-television "package deal". It will feature Zane Grey's "King of the Royal Mounted," which has been syndicated as a comic strip for 15 years by King Features, appearing in Hearst, and other papers, and will be seen in television as well as heard on the radio starting immediately.

The deal was closed between Ayer and Telecomics, of New York, subsidiary of Stephen Slesinger, Inc.

Fred Larned, Para. Dallas Head, Killed

DALLAS, April 13.—M. C. Clark, Paramount district manager here, has received word that Fred Larned, 39, Dallas branch manager, who was with Paramount for 22 years, was killed in an automobile accident on Thursday in Carmel, Cal. Larned and his wife, who was injured, were on vacation and en route to Hollywood after visiting San Francisco.

Larned is also survived by three children, including Fred Jr., 20, who is with United Artists here.

'Alexander' Re-issue At Roxy Wednesday

"Alexander's Ragtime Band," 20th Century-Fox Technicolor musical set to Irving Berlin's score, will open at the Roxy Theatre here for the second time on Wednesday, following the conclusion tomorrow of the three-week run of "Carnival in Costa Rica."

The film is being given the return engagement because of "unprecedented demand," according to a Roxy official.

Mason and Lockwood Win British Awards

London, April 13. — The *London Daily Mail's* second annual competition patterned after the Hollywood Academy Awards rates "Piccadilly Incident" the best British picture of 1946, with James Mason and Margaret Lockwood named the best British actors of the year.

'Duel' in 300 Key Openings on May 7

Starting the week of May 7, David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" will open in more than 300 key cities, Milton Kusell, Selznick Releasing Organization sales manager, disclosed here.

Representing the Eastern territory in the openings will be the premiere at the Capitol Theatre and 37 other Loew's theatres in the New York Metropolitan area. On the West Coast it will open in an additional 150 key houses in both the Los Angeles and San Francisco territories.

Robert M. Gillham, Eastern advertising and publicity director, and Claud Morris, exploitation manager, left for Dallas at the weekend to line up the campaign scheduled for the openings throughout the Southwest.

SOPEG to Elect Executive Tonight

Nomination and election of a vice-president to succeed Norman Hasselo of United Artists, who resigned the post with the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, will be held at a regular quarterly membership meeting tonight at Palm Gardens here. Hasselo withdrew because of his health.

A life-long honorary membership in SOPEG will be awarded to Herman Liveright, former SOPEG president,

Nelson in Mexico for Talks with Aleman

MEXICO CITY, April 13.—Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, flew here from Hollywood on Saturday at the invitation of Mexican President Aleman to "discuss industrial matters."

Francis Alstock, former executive of the Motion Picture Society for the Americas, accompanied Nelson on the plane sent by Aleman. Nelson will return to Hollywood on Wednesday.

Puccini Protest

The council of the Dramatists Guild of the Authors League of America has wired protests to President Truman, Assistant Secretary of State William Benton, and Attorney-General Tom Clark against the licensing by the U. S. Alien Property Custodian of the works of Giacomo Puccini to Milton Schubert.

Ann Weingarten to E-L

Ann Weingarten, formerly with Story Productions and Producers Releasing Corp., here, has joined Eagle-Lion as assistant to Patrece Snyder, E-L radio manager.

"The Strange Woman" is a Hunt Stromberg production. "The Strange Woman" stars Hedy Lamarr. "The Strange Woman" is doing outstanding business all over the country. "The Strange Woman" is an exhibitor's picture.

"Dishonored Lady" is a Hunt Stromberg production. "Dishonored Lady" stars Hedy Lamarr. "Dishonored Lady" will equal—or better—the business now being done by "The Strange Woman". That's a promise from

UA!

THE WORLD'S FAVORITE ENTERTAINERS SAY
"IT HAPPENED ON 5TH AVENUE"
IS *THE* PICTURE TO SEE!

GENE AUTRY
Says:
"Finest two hours of entertainment I've seen in many a day!"



"Monsieur Verdoux"

(*Continued from page* 1)

on the scene. These stretches are ingenious and frequently hilarious. But they also come along deep in the film with an opening night audience undoubtedly awaiting rib-ticklers long since anticipated. Otherwise, the laugh content—and mild—is compressed into titters and appreciation over the famous Chaplinesque mannerisms and his superb mimicry.

THE writer, producer-director-star here is telling a story about his need to murder in order to live and love his crippled wife and young son. Before he confronts his destiny and his inevitable end, voluntarily s[illegible]ht after wife and child die, Chaplin has removed 14 women from this un[illegible]n world. Fortunately for the film and its audience all of this enterprise is not unfolded on the screen.

The one who touches whatever of the normal may be ascribed to this modern Bluebeard is Marilyn Nash whose planned elimination is passed up when Chaplin learns of her fidelity to her late, but invalid, husband. Elsewhere in his busy adventures, however, he not only is unruffled in his prodigious crime career but apparently pleased.

The social significance angle ties to the star's humdrum career of 30 years as bank clerk, the depression and his discharge. This is presented as sufficient excuse to set him on his course. World affairs, introduced for no substantial reason of dramatic interpretation, includes the approaching cataclysm of World War II, preceded by bank failures and riots. This adds nothing to the precise story which Chaplin sets out to tell except for the opportunity to talk about international destruction on a wholesale scale, and a discursive harangue in philosophies which may be meaningful to a selected few. The great common denominator won't get it and won't care.

Just under press deadline, "Monsieur Verdoux" appears as fuzzy Chaplin considerably short of his greatest efforts. Appeal will depend upon those who want to see him regardless of what they may see him in, and probably they are in considerable number. Their total, however, will not include the younger generation for whom this is not a suitable attraction under any circumstances. About that rising generation, there is this incident to tell:

A woman in front of this reviewer remarked she had told her daughter she was off to Charlie Chaplin's new picture. "Who is Charlie Chaplin?" asked the eight-year-old.

Robert Florey and Wheeler Dryden served as associate directors along with the producer.

Running time, 120 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

RED KANN

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, April 13

SOL SIEGEL has been assigned to produce "The Chair for Martin Rome" for 20th Century-Fox. The Henry Helseth novel, acquired recently by the studio, is being adapted to the screen by Ben Hecht and Charles Lederer. . . . George Cukor has been signed to direct "The Art of Murder" for Kanin Productions, Universal-International. Ronald Colman is set for the top role, and Michael Kanin will produce. . . . Producer Sol Wurtzel, who releases through 20th Century-Fox, has signed Don Castle to a multiple-picture contract. . . . Henry Wilcoxon will appear as a Scotland Yard detective in Maurice Conn's next production for Screen Guild release, entitled "Dark Bullet."

•

Claudette Colbert has been engaged for the starring role opposite Spencer Tracy in "State of the Union," to be produced by Liberty Films and released by M-G-M. . . . Melvyn Douglas has been signed to a long-term contract by RKO Radio. . . . Producer-director Roy Del Ruth has acquired "Manhattan Love Song," a story by Cornell Woolrich, and will produce it for Allied Artists release.

•

"Web of Days," a novel by Edna Lee, has been purchased by Paramount as a starring vehicle for Paulette Goddard. . . . Robert Cummings has been engaged by Triangle Productions for a stellar role in "Sleep, My Love," scheduled to go before cameras some time in May. . . . Evelyn Keyes' next starring role for Columbia will be in a comedy-drama entitled "The Mating of Millie McGonigle."

•

William Seiter is set to direct the Sigmund Romberg musical, "Up in Central Park," which will be filmed in Technicolor at Universal-International, with Deanna Durbin starred. . . . Robert Mitchum has been assigned one of the top roles in "The Harder They Fall," RKO Radio's forthcoming film version of Budd Schulberg's latest novel. . . . Veteran actor Chester Conklin has been signed by Monogram for a comedy lead in "Song of the Wasteland."

•

Paramount plans to star Bob Hope as "The Caliph of Bagdad" in a semi-fantasy which will be laid in part in the present, and in part in the peak days of the now-extinct Syriac civilization. P. J. Wolfson is slated to produce. . . . Stephen Dunne has been signed by Columbia to a long-term contract, and will play the lead in "The Son of Rusty," scheduled to start this month. . . . William Bendix has been engaged by William Cagney for a top role in "The Time of Your Life."

•

Lana Turner will have a stellar part in M-G-M's screen version of Sinclair Lewis' best seller, "Cass Timberlane." . . . Character actress Aline MacMahon has been added to the cast of David O. Selznick's "Portrait of Jennie," now shooting on location in New York.

Edward Dempsey, 40

Edward J. Dempsey, 40, Radio City Music Hall sound engineer died at Physicians' Hospital, Jackson Heights, on Friday.

Federation Slated By P. R. Exhibitors

By REUBEN D. SANCHEZ

SAN JUAN, April 9 (By Airmail).—Formation of a Latin American federation of exhibitors and affiliation with an American exhibitors' association are two considerations which will top the agenda at the annual convention of motion picture exhibitors of Puerto Rico, to be held here May 30.

Since last year's convention, a number of new theatres have opened in Puerto Rico, a fact which points to a record attendance this year. Most recently opened are the Luquillo, near Luquillo National Forest; the San Carlos and Hatillo, both in Hatillo; the Arecibo, in Arecibo; the Puerto Rico, at Fajardo; the Hormigueros, in Quinoes. Cobian's Theatres is now building the Metropolitan, here, which will be the country's largest house, seating 1,500; the Coloso, Victoria and Boliva, and will reconstruct the Venus here.

Jaeger Replaces Zeno at 20th

SAN JUAN, April 9 (By Airmail).—Carlos Zeno, manager of 20th Century-Fox's local branch, has resigned after 19 years. He will be replaced by Andrew P. Jaeger. Frank McHughes, manager for Warners here, also has resigned. Harold Cudoff, assistant manager for Universal-International, has arrived in San Juan. Jack Cohn, manager for M-G-M here, has been transferred.

Work on Radio Code To Continue Here

WASHINGTON, April 13.—The National Association of Broadcasters' special standards of practice committee will meet in New York on May 12 and 13 to work on reports of two sub-committees in its drive to revise the radio industry's code.

The sub-committee on commercial practices meets at French Lick, Ind., on April 17 and 18. The sub-committee on general program practices will convene at Chicago on April 24 and 25.

Eve Ettinger Resigns

HOLLYWOOD, April 13.—Eve Ettinger, Columbia story editor, has asked for and received her release effective May 1. She was with the studio for 14 years.

MGM Bidding

(*Continued from page* 1)

treble-damage suits by disgruntled exhibitors.

While the order staying operation of the New York decree leaves the companies to choose their own method of selling it must be in compliance with the New York court's decision which is law until and if the U. S. Supreme Court reverses it.

All M-G-M exchanges except New York are participating in the bidding program for the sake of gaining experience in the event bidding is ultimately ordered, it was said.

Meanwhile, the home office is preparing for the company's sales convention at the Hotel Astor here April 28. Reservations are being made for close to 100 division, district and branch managers as well as head bookers.

Government Merger Service Welcomed

Washington, April 13.—Attorney-General Tom Clark has reported a "gratifying response" to his suggestion that corporations check with the Department of Justice in advance on whether contemplated mergers would violate anti-trust laws. The department recently set up a merger unit to give corporations this type of advice and to keep a general check on mergers.

Sees 500,000 Video Sets by Next Year

PHILADELPHIA, April 13.—The prediction that by 1948 there will be nearly 500,000 television receivers in American homes has been made by Thomas H. Hutchinson, television consultant for station WFIL here.

The promotion of Kenneth W. Stoneman to director of television for that station has been announced by Roger Clipp, WFIL's general manager.

SPG Approves Proposals

HOLLYWOOD, April 13.—The Screen Actors Guild in a mass meeting voted complete approval of contract proposals prepared by a negotiating committee for submission to producers at conferences which are to start Tuesday.

William Scully

(*Continued from page* 1)

James J. Jordan, manager of the contract-playdate-sales department, and Al Horwits, Eastern publicity manager.

Scully said that, once motion pictures lose their news value—which can only be obtained through the traditional methods of exploitation—the value of advertising itself will diminish. "We are now trying to gain new audiences, particularly younger people and also to get certain elements of the population which are not ordinarily motion picture-minded," Scully declared.

In indorsing the methods and techniques being put into use between the field and home office publicity staffs of U-I, Scully stated that every key city is entitled to the same type of promotions in helping to sell a picture as those used in launching a picture in New York.

"Only by developing closer contact with theatre managers can the distributor hope to obtain the extra revenue which is required to meet the advancing costs of production," Scully said.

Bergman announced the appointment of Charles Simonelli as special publicity coordinator with the field forces to assure closer contact between the home office, studio and field promotion staffs. Simonelli will continue as director of special events. He will work directly under Horwits.

According to Bergman, all projects developed in the home office for the promotion of pictures will be packaged for use in the field.

Horwits outlined the new publicity service which will channel special material directly to field men and give specialized features, stills and layouts according to requirements of individual situations.

Double Feature Pact Reached

MINNEAPOLIS, April 13.—Pictures playing the Orpheum, Radio City and State first-runs will not be used on double feature bills by subsequent runs, under terms of an "agreement" reached at a meeting of all city independent theatre owners. Similar arrangements are now being negotiated for St. Paul, with an early meeting expected to settle the controversy amicably, it is reported.

There has been considerable alarm and agitation over the growing number of double bills of top-flight product in the Twin Cities recently, climaxed by action of Rubenstein and Kaplan circuit in using a top feature day and date at the Faust, St. Paul, along with another top film, while the same "A" picture was playing Minnesota Amusement Co.'s Center as a single bill at a 10-cent higher admission charge. The two houses are less than a mile apart.

The action to limit double bills in Minnesota was made by exhibitors as individuals, not as a group or as members of an organization, in order to stay within the law.

Rites for John Ince Are Held on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, April 13.—John Ince, 68, actor, former director and brother of the late Thomas H. and Ralph Ince, was buried here on Saturday. He died on Thursday of pneumonia. His widow survives.

Ince's last picture was "The Paradine Case." He started a stage career in 1888 and entered pictures in 1913, directing or acting in "Moby Dick," "Hot Curves," "Little Caesar," "Children of Dreams," and others.

Reception for Albert

Universal-International will be host to the trade press at a reception in honor of actor Eddie Albert, to be held at the Club 21, here, this Thursday.

NYC Owners Irked

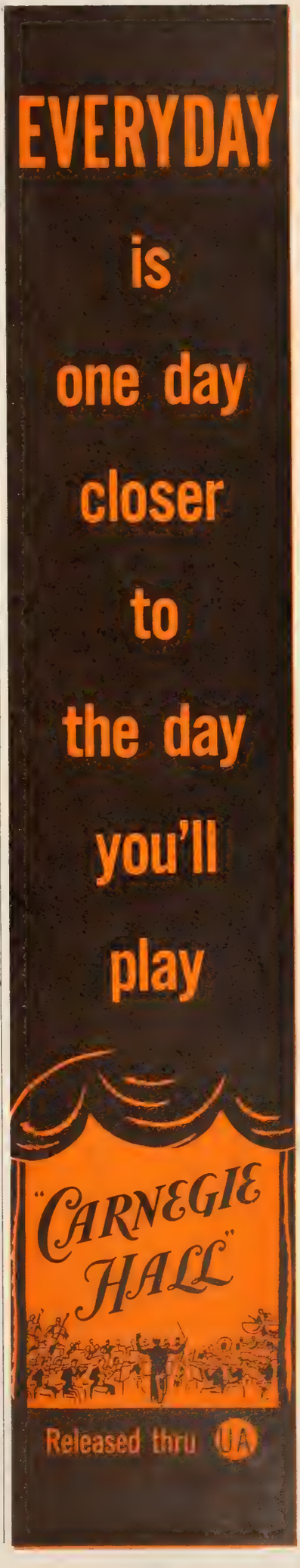
(*Continued from page* 1)

the League of New York Theatres, organization of legitimate theatre operators, disclaims any knowledge of who fostered the suggestion. The license fee paid by legitimate theatres is $500.

Of New York's 706 film houses, only the few that offer vaudeville or stage shows are required to pay a $500 license fee. Straight film houses having a seating capacity up to 600 pay a yearly fee of $100; from 601 to 1,000, $150; over 1,000, $200.

Harry Brandt, president of the Independent Theatre Owners of New York, termed the anonymous proposal "ridiculous." He said he could not visualize "any theatre owner of any caliber who would be in favor of adding an additional financial burden on the already over-burdened film exhibition industry of New York City."

Although officials of the American Theatres Association and the Metropolitan Theatre Owners Association were either out of town or otherwise unavailable for comment, unofficial spokesmen of both organizations indicated that any move to increase theatre license fees would meet with strong opposition from both.



Thanks, Sid....but it's only the beginning!....

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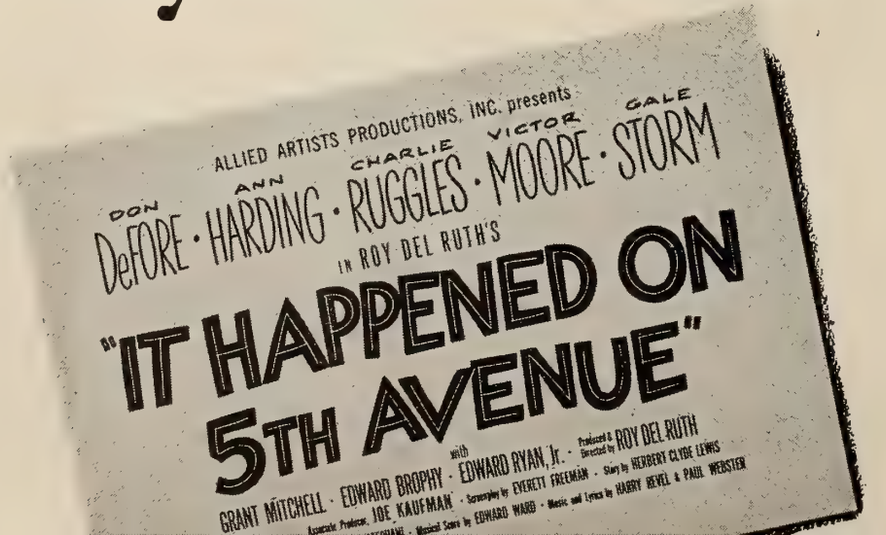
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DL=Day Letter
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MR M R GOLDSTEIN. GENERAL SALES MANAGER=
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SIDNEY MEYER WOMETCO THEATERS.

...and soon they'll be going to "FIFTH AVENUE" in every city and town!....



ALLIED ARTISTS PRODUCTIONS

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 73 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1947 TEN CENTS

Hutcheson Bars Theatre Construction

Work on Sets Also Under Carpenters' Ban

HOLLYWOOD, April 14. — No American Federation of Labor carpenters anywhere may work on studio or theatre construction according to a ruling by William Hutcheson, international president of the Carpenter Union, it was revealed here last night by James V. Cambiano, international vice-president, at a mass meeting of the Conference of Studio Unions.

Cambiano also disclosed that Hutcheson has delegates negotiating authority to the Hollywood local in a long-embattled jurisdictional tie-up with the proviso that no jurisdiction

(*Continued on page 4*)

Open Republic Sales Meeting on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, April 14.—Reiterating Republic's policy aimed at increasing the proportion of its high-budget productions, Herbert J. Yates, president, today delivered the principal opening-day address at the third and final Republic sales meeting at the studio here. James R. Grainger, executive vice-president and general sales manager, presided.

Attending the sessions, which will continue through Wednesday, were Allen Wilson, vice-president; Earl R. Collins, Western district manager; and the following branch managers: Ralph Carmichael, Los Angeles; S. C. Martenstein, San Francisco; Gene Gerbase, Denver; Thomas McMahon, Salt Lake City; Paul McElhinney, Seattle.

H. F. Kincey Named Foundation Trustee

CHARLOTTE, April 14.—H. F. Kincey, president of North Carolina Theatres, Inc., was elected chairman and national trustee of the Carolinas' Motion Picture Foundation at an organization meeting here today.

Fifteen members of a 17-man committee were voted by 75 representatives of the industry attending. The

(*Continued on page 4*)

PCA Frown on 'Verdoux' Turned To Smiles: Chaplin

Joseph Breen, Production Code administrator, congratulated Charles Chaplin for his "dignified" fashioning of the multi-murder theme in "Monsieur Verdoux" after Breen originally had disclosed intentions of rejecting the film when the scenario was first submitted to him, Chaplin said here yesterday.

The producer recalled, he said, that two or three changes were made in the script but these were minor and in no way interferred with the character of the story.

Chaplin spoke to about 50 newspaper reporters in a meeting "instigated by our public relations department" as he put it, and one coinciding nicely with the engagement of his film at the Broadway Theatre here. The hour-long session was transcribed by radio station WNEW for broadcast last night. The large majority of interrogators were particularly concerned with Chaplin's political views and his contributions to the war effort. (He is a "citizen of the

(*Continued on page 4*)

Allied 'Baffled' by Arbitration Stay

WASHINGTON, April 14.—"The feature of Justice Reed's action which is wholly baffling from a legal standpoint is the granting of a stay of the provision which terminated arbitration," Allied States asserts in a bulletin to members made public today.

"Lawyers will never cease to wonder how he could restore the consent decree without the consent of the Government, except by a legal tour de force," the bulletin continues. "However, since so many exhibitors seem to have formed an attachment for arbitration just as it was about to expire, no one should complain.

"One explanation of the last-minute deluge of arbitration is that the exhibitors, alarmed by the hush-hush clearance surveys being made by distributors, are resorting to arbitration in

(*Continued on page 4*)

Barnett Buys Out Partner Massce

William Barnett has purchased the interests held in the Massce-Barnett Co. by William Massce, who is no longer with the company, Barnett said here yesterday. The firm handles foreign shipping for film companies.

Del Giudice Resigns Post with Two Cities

LONDON, April 14.—Following a sharp policy disagreement, Filippo Del Giudice has resigned as managing director of Two Cities Films, Ltd. He is succeeded by Josef Somlo. Both parties claim the parting was amicable with Del Giudice remaining until "Hamlet" has been completed.

N. Y. 1st-Run Income Good

New York first-run business generally is running at a good clip this week although, of course, under the very heavy Easter Week holiday income. The main event was the debut of Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux" at the Broadway theatre. The house, scaled at capacity of between $57,000 and $60,000, did an estimated $16,000 on Saturday and Sunday.

The Music Hall's "The Late George Apley," and the Easter stage presen-

(*Continued on page 4*)

MPTOA Hails Arbitration Stay

The Supreme Court stay of the New York decree's termination of the industry arbitration system meets with the approval of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, Fred Wehrenberg, president, states in a membership bulletin released here yesterday.

The bulletin also emphasis that the stay of competitive bidding does not mean that distributors will not employ that licensing method pending determination of appeals from the decree.

"Any stay granted as to competitive

(*Continued on page 4*)

Name Frye Chairman Of General Aniline

WASHINGTON, April 14.—Jack Frye, former president of TWA, has been elected chairman of the board of General Aniline and Film Corp. (parent organization of Ansco), Attorney General Tom Clark announced here today.

The company was seized as alien property at the beginning of the war and is 97 per cent owned by the U. S. It owns the U. S. rights to the I. G. Farben motion picture patents which includes a color film that can be developed in one process.

Para. Theatre Partnerships Will Be Kept

No Change Contemplated Prior to Appeal Ruling

By CHARLES L. FRANKE

Paramount will keep intact all of its theatre partnerships until the Supreme Court hands down a ruling on appeals from the New York court decision in the industry anti-trust suit, Leonard Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., said yesterday.

The New York decree allows two years from Dec. 31, 1946, for the divestiture of partnership holdings. Since the Supreme Court is expected to act on the appeals early in 1948, Paramount would have almost a full year thereafter in which to sever its

(*Continued on page 3*)

SOPEG Studying New Salary Demands

The contract research and negotiations committee of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, UOPWA-CIO, has begun a study in connection with the expected reopening of wage clauses in its agreements with film home offices here. Under the contracts, signed last October, the union may present new wage demands by the end of July.

Pacts involved are those with Loew's International, Marcus Loew Booking Corp., 20th Century-Fox and 20th-Fox International, Fox Movietone News, RKO Radio, Paramount, Paramount International as well as several of its subsidiary companies, Columbia, Columbia International, United Artists, Republic and National Screen Service. Paul Kellogg of RKO Service Corp. was elected vice-president of the local last night.

Switch Gives 10 1st Runs to Denver

DENVER, April 14.—With the boosting of the Tabor, which uses stage shows occasionally, to first-run statue, Denver will have 10 first-run houses, the most in its history. Besides this change, Fox Intermountain is changing its other first-run setup. In the

(*Continued on page 4*)

Personal Mention

BEN KALMENSON, Warner Brothers vice-president and general sales manager, is due to return here today from the Coast.

•

RAY MOON, 20th Century-Fox home office sales representative, and MRS. MOON, are parents of twin boys born at Le Roy Sanitorium here on Saturday. The couple has another son, RAY, JR.

•

MRS. WILLIAM HORNE, wife of the Eastern representative of Jack H. Skirball-Bruce Manning Productions, underwent an operation at Woman's Hospital here yesterday.

•

MANNY REINER, Selznick Releasing Organization's Latin American representative, has returned to New York from a South American tour.

•

EDMUND C. GRAINGER, head of Shea Circuit, has returned to New York from a Florida vacation.

•

ALFRED CROWN, Samuel Goldwyn Productions' foreign sales manager, left here last night for Rio de Janeiro.

•

ARTHUR WILLI, head of RKO Radio's Eastern talent division, left New York for Chicago yesterday.

•

JOEL LEVY, out-of-town booker for Loew's, returned to his desk here yesterday after an illness.

•

WILLIAM DEVANEY, assistant M-G-M branch manager, has returned to Chicago from New York.

•

CHARLES SCHWARTZ of Pacific Coast Film Co., has arrived here from the Coast.

•

NATHAN H. JURAN, art director for Story Productions, has returned to the Coast from New York.

Sam Briskin Admits Talks with Para.

HOLLYWOOD, April 14.—Sam Briskin, independent producer, currently distributing product of his Liberty Pictures through RKO Radio, admitted here today that he is negotiating for Paramount release. He added that while progress is being made, no deal has been finalized. Unconfirmed reports here have Paramount buying Liberty for $5,000,000.

"No comment" was the reply of a Paramount home office spokesman, here, yesterday when questioned on negotiations with Briskin.

Duer To Represent Selznick in Denver

DENVER, April 14.—C. J. Duer, Paramount salesman, has been named special representative for the Selznick Releasing Organization in this area, and has established offices in the Denham building.

Americas' Copyright Convention in Effect

Washington, April 14.—The Inter - American Copyright Convention went into effect today as the Dominican Republic deposited its ratification with the Pan-American Union. Two nations' approval was required to put the agreement into effect. Ecuador was the first to approve the convention, which is binding on each nation when it deposits its ratification.

NSS Meet Opens in Chicago Thursday

CHICAGO, April 14.—Final preparations are about complete, under supervision of the Chicago branch staff, for the National Screen Service international sales convention which will get under way at the Hotel Drake, here, on Thursday and will run through Saturday.

Herman Robbins, president, will head the list of company officials and field personnel attending. Representatives from London will also be on hand.

NSS home-office heads and the New York exchange sales staff will leave New York today. In the party will be: Robbins, George Dembow, distribution vice-president; William B. Brenner, operational vice-president, and Joseph A. Wolfe, treasurer.

Also, Harry A. Samwick, Burton E. Robbins, Melvin L. Gold, Lou F. Schwartz, Elias Drexler, Seymour Peyser, Donald L. Velde, Hal C. Young, Paul Mooney, Sam Gershwin, J. R. McPherson and Arnold Williams. The latter two are London co-managing directors.

Barney Pitkin Heads New Variety Group

HARTFORD, April 14.—Installation of officers of the recently-formed Variety Club of Conecticut, Tent No. 31, took place today at a dinner.

Installed were: Barney Pitkin, chief barker; Dr. Jack Fishman, first assistant chief barker; Rudy Frank, second assistant; George Wilkinson, dough guy; Arthur Greenfield, propertyman; John Pavone, Carl Goe, Harry F. Shaw, Lou Brown, Herman Levy, and Henry Germaine, canvassmen.

Baltimore Variety Dinner

BALTIMORE, April 14.—The Baltimore Variety Club Tent No. 19 will hold its annual banquet on Thursday evening. Chief barker Fred C. Schanberger, Jr., says that guests from Philadelphia and Washington will be on hand. Winners of three automobiles and 50 other prizes will be named.

CRI Workers Vaccinated

Employes of the New York office of Confidential Reports yesterday were vaccinated against smallpox.

Fleischer Says Video Lacks Showmanship

"Showmanship is ignored in television programming and while every observer cannot point out errors he knows something is wrong," Max Fleischer, veterans film cartoon producer active in the field of television during the past 14 years, charged here yesterday, addressing the opening session of a two-day meeting of the Television Institute at the Hotel Commodore.

He cautioned that a "few disappointments" will mean the loss of television's audience as the aspect of novelty diminishes and is replaced by the public's demand for genuine entertainment. Elaborating further, he observed that the new industry must equal the motion picture and radio "if it is really serious in its bid to establish itself in the field of theatrical entertainment."

Television's main problem, Fleischer finds, is its inability to transmit an actual picture as complete in definition as the "imaginary picture which radio conjures up in a hundred words." He stated that "quality entertainment" is not yet possible under the present technical limitations but these will be corrected eventually.

Reelfellows Support Colosseum Salesmen

MINNEAPOLIS, April 14.—Opposition to solid membership of the Minneapolis Reelfellows club in the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen, film salesmen's guild, faded quickly at the club's annual election, according to reports, resulting in a vote for full support of that labor movement.

The Colosseum negotiating committee, named at Chicago two weeks ago, will discuss a contract with distributors in New York some time this month. Pat Halloran, of the Minneapolis Universal sales staff, and a member of the Colosseum strategy committee, was delegated to attend the New York contract conferences.

Milton Lipsner was elected president of Reelfellows for the next year; Halloran was named vice-president; William A. Cameron, treasurer, and Dick Stahl, sergeant at arms.

License Fee Boost Asked in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, April 14.—An increase in theatre licenses from the present 10 cents a seat to $50 for the first 200 seats, 20 cents a seat for the next 500 and 10 cents a seat for all over 700 seats, was included in a recommendation of City Manager W. R. Kellogg to the City Council.

The proposals will be referred to the Council's finance committee for public hearings.

CHARLES CHAPLIN
IN
"MONSIEUR VERDOUX"
A Motion Picture that will STARTLE you!
Released thru United Artists
BROADWAY THEATRE B'way at 53rd

Bob Young Joins E-L

Bob Young, former Warner home-office pressbook editor, has joined Eagle-Lion's publicity advertising staff here.

NEW YORK THEATRES

FRANK BORZAGE'S
fast moving drama of love and excitement
"THAT'S MY MAN"
Starring
Don AMECHE • Catherine McLEOD
with
Roscoe KARNS Kitty IRISH
John RIDGELY Joe FRISCO
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Brandt's GLOBE B'WAY & 46th ST.

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
RONALD COLMAN in
'THE LATE GEORGE APLEY'
Introducing PEGGY CUMMINS
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
THE MUSIC HALL'S GREAT EASTER STAGE SHOW

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
TRAIL STREET
starring Randolph SCOTT • Robert RYAN
Anne JEFFREYS • George "Gabby" HAYES

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st B'way Showing!
WALLACE BEERY
'The MIGHTY McGURK'
IN PERSON
MICKEY ROONEY
LOUIS BASIL & LOEW'S STATESMEN
plus OTHERS

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTEN • ETHEL BARRYMORE
"The Farmer's Daughter"
An RKO Radio Picture
A DORE SCHARY Production
RIVOLI
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.
B'way at 49th St.

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

BOB HOPE
DOROTHY LAMOUR
in PARAMOUNT'S
"My Favorite Brunette"
with PETER LORRE
LON CHANEY
in Person!
JIMMY DORSEY
AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PAT HENNING • IVY SCOTT
LOUIS JORDAN
AND HIS TYMPANY FIVE
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Extend Jurisdiction Of Memphis Censors

Memphis, April 14. — The Memphis board of censors, nationally famous for its banning of pictures, today had its jurisdiction extended to all towns in Shelby County. Under a legislative act, Lloyd T. Binford, retired insurance man, Mrs. Sid Law, clubwoman, and Hodges Honoll, attorney, who comprise the Memphis board, were named as Shelby County board of censors.

Tax Passed in Italy On All Companies

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

ROME, April 9 (By Airmail).— American companies in Italy, fretting under exchange regulations which forbid taking their profits out, now must pay a tax on those blocked accounts and on all their investments in Italy. A bill has been approved by Italy's Cabinet Council enforcing the country's "tax on wealth." It applies to all foreign companies as well as native.

The tax runs from six per cent on 3,000,000 lire ($13,000) to 41 per cent on a billion or more lire $4,444,000 or more). Foreign companies will only pay one-third of those percentages. This would mean American film companies would pay about six per cent on $800,000 and about 9 per cent on $2,000,000. Most of the American film companies' money is in bank accounts. Only 20th Century-Fox and MGM have purchased buildings in Rome.

Nordhoff, Writer of 'Bounty' Series, Dies

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., April 14.— Charles Barnard Nordhoff, who collaborated with James Norman Hall on "Mutiny on the Bounty," died at his home here on Friday, apparently of a heart attack. He was 60 years old and was writing a new novel with Tod Ford, who found him dead in bed.

With Hall, Nordhoff wrote two other books in the "Bounty" trilogy, and also wrote four other books of his own. Charles Laughton portrayed Captain Bligh in the screen version of "Bounty," made by M-G-M.

Dembow, Sr., Funeral Services in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, April 14.—Funeral services for Sam Dembow, senior, who died Saturday night, were held here today. Survivors include three sons, Sam, Jr., head of Producers Service, Inc.; George, National Screen Service executive, both of New York, and Harry, theatreman of Media, Pa.

Stonebrook Returns

OMAHA, April 14. — Rollin K. Stonebrook, former manager of the Omaha Theatre who resigned from the circuit recently, has returned to operate the Orpheum, largest house in the city. Ted Emerson, who had managed the Orpheum until a recent illness, will be in charge of publicity for the three circuit houses here. He will return to work April 16.

Krim, Schwalberg to Head E-L Training

Arthur B. Krim, president, and A. W. Schwalberg, distribution chief, will direct actual operation of a new veterans' training program for distribution personnel which will be launched shortly by Eagle-Lion.

The training program, while not officially connected with any existing rehabilitation or training program for ex-GI's, will work closely with established agencies, according to Krim. Trainees will be chosen without emphasis upon any previous film company experience, Schwalberg, a former executive at Warner Brothers who devised that company's sales indoctrination course, declared.

"All selected will be routed through every department in the sales division, spending several weeks in each, so that by the time they are through, they will have a combination of theoretical training and practical experience," he added. Schwalberg also pointed out that the film industry is the only major industry in this country which lacks an organized training program designed to provide a continuing flow of new manpower.

Vogel Handling Films For New York Fund

Joseph R. Vogel, Loew's, Inc., vice-president, will plan a special motion picture release to publicize the Greater New York Fund's 10th Annual campaign, which will open on April 29. The picture will be one phase of an all-out publicity drive, which will include radio, newspaper advertising, store-window displays, etc.

Para. Theatres

(*Continued from page* 1)

theatre partnerships if the high court does not reverse the New York decision.

Under the New York decision the defendant companies are enjoined from "continuing to own or acquiring any beneficial interest in any theatre, whether in fee or shares of stock or otherwise, in conjunction with another defendant, and from continuing to own or acquire such an interest in conjunction with an independent where such interest shall be greater than five per cent unless such interest shall be 95 per cent or more."

In its appeal of the decision filed last February, Paramount contended that the court erred in making that ruling and also in "finding that when theatres are jointly owned by defendant Paramount Pictures, Inc., and an independent exhibitor it is evident that both joint owners wish to participate and are directly or indirectly participating in the business of exhibiting motion pictures and that defendant Paramount Pictures, Inc., thereby eliminates putative competition between itself and the other joint owner who otherwise would be in a position to operate theatres independently."

Last February Paramount officials and the company's theatre partners met in Florida to, among other subjects, explore ways and means of complying with the decision. The subject is expected to be discussed further at a meeting to be held at Arrowhead Springs, Cal., May 6-9, despite the company's decision to forego any dissolution of partnerships until after the Supreme Court acts on the appeals.



N. Y. Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

tation, are still drawing top money, the estimate for the week being $145,-500. A new stage show will replace the current one on Thursday.

At the Hollywood, "The Two Mrs. Carrolls" is performing very well, with $35,000 in view for the second week. "Stallion Road" and Cab Calloway's orchestra are a healthy combination at the Strand, where $50,000 is seen for a second week.

"The Best Years of Our Lives" has yet to slide to any great extent. Business for the 21st week at the Astor is put at $42,000. "The Farmer's Daughter" is going over nicely at the Rivoli, where $45,000 is in sight for the fourth week. "The Other Love" will follow on April 30.

A favorable $24,000 for the initial week of "Buck Privates Come Home" at the Rivoli is indicated. "Time Out of Mind" figures to take about $16,-000, which is sound business, in a second week at the Park.

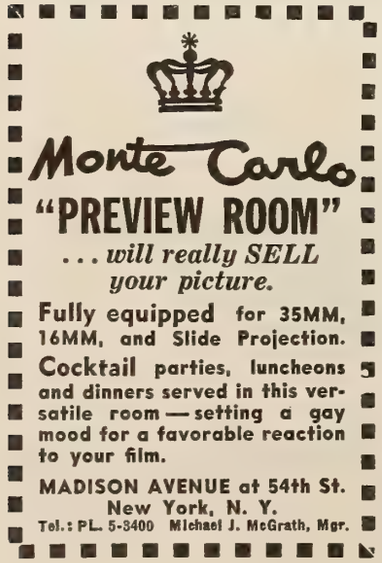
The Roxy show, "Carnival in Costa Rica" and a stage bill topped by Connee Boswell and Jackie Miles, will probably wind up its third and final week with a big $80,000 estimated. "Alexander's Ragtime Band," a reissue, will bow in tomorrow. First week of "Trail Street" at the Palace is fair enough at $29,500. "Johnny O'Clock" is likely to ring up $23,000, which is all right, in a third week at the Criterion; "Odd Man Out" is next, probably to open there on April 23.

At the Paramount, the fourth and final week of "My Favorite Brunette" and Jimmy Dorsey's orchestra is good for $85,000; "Calcutta" will follow there tomorrow. The second week of "The Adventuress" at the Victoria" is fair at $16,000. "That's My Man," in a second week at the Globe, will take in close to $18,500, which is sturdy business; "The Macomber Affair" is slated to open there on Friday.

"Tarzan and the Huntress" is having a moderate second week at the Gotham with $17,000 in view. "Fear in the Night" will open at the Rialto on Friday, replacing "Boom Town," a reissue, which should hit $7,000 in its second and final week.

Valentine Resigns

BALTIMORE, April 14.—Harry Valentine has resigned as general manager of the Rome Circuit here.



Petrillo Subpoenaed By House Committee

WASHINGTON, April 14.—Representative Hartley (Republican, N. J.), chairman of the House Labor Committee, announced today that he has subpoenaed James C. Petrillo, head of the American Federation of Musicians, to testify before the Committee on the internal conduct of his union.

Hartley said that Petrillo's appearance will be deferred until the Supreme Court rules on the constitutionality of the Lea Act.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—The Senate Labor Committee has relaxed provisions in its labor bill covering jurisdictional strikes and secondary boycotts, but the possibility remains that the measure will be toughened on the Senate floor.

Carpenters

(*Continued from page* 1)

be yielded by the local.

The painters' local announced at the meeting that 18 members who had returned to work have been fined a total of $277,100, based on two years' normal pay, for disobeying the union's picket line. The fined members have 30 days in which to file an appeal.

Setting a Hollywood precedent, the Association of Motion Picture Producers, the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, and the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association today agreed to appoint a joint committee to represent all three in negotiations with the Screen Actors Guild, which begin tomorrow night.

Chaplin

(*Continued from page* 1)

world"; has no "political persuasions"; made several speeches in behalf of unity among the allies and a second front, and had two sons in uniform, he said.)

As for production, there are to be more comedies coming when Chaplin "gets the notion." He might bring back the tramp character, again "if he gets the notion." He said he paid Orson Welles $5,000 for his suggestion that he do a picture about a Bluebeard character, which turned out to be "Verdoux."

Co-owner of United Artists, Chaplin said the company's board of directors will take up the matter of reorganization within two or three weeks. The UA annual meeting will be held early next month.

H. F. Kincey Named

(*Continued from page* 1)

members were empowered to appoint two additional persons to the committee, one representing small town exhibitors, the other representing theatre employes.

Those named for one-year trustee terms were: J. C. Long, Charleston; Roy B. Rowe, Burgaw, N. C. and H. H. Everett of Charlotte, representing exhibitors. Also J. H. Dillon, Roy Erwin, George Roscoe of Charlotte, representing distributors, and Blake Gryder of Charlotte, representing allied industries. Two-year members included Ben Strozier of Rock Hill, S. C., Kincey and H. D. Hearn of Charlotte, exhibitors; J. H. Holston and Dean House of Charlotte, distributors; John Vickers and Jay Schrader of Charlotte, allied industries.

Allied 'Baffled'

(*Continued from page* 1)

the hope of securing awards which will protect them against unfavorable changes in the clearance status," the Allied bulletin says.

Remarking that "the attention paid to the application for and granting of the stay seemed all out of proportion to the importance of the affair," Allied declares that "to those familiar with the practice it was a foregone conclusion that the court would grant a stay as to the competitive bidding provision."

(Allied devotes two and one-half pages of a five and one-half-page bulletin to the stay. The Government opposed the stay of competitive bidding, as well as the stay of all other provisions.—Ed. Note).

The Allied bulletin welcomes the recent report of the Commission on Freedom of the Press which recommended that films and radio be extended the Constitutional guarantee of press freedom.

"Whoever heard of Congress or any state legislature putting a special excise tax on newspapers, magazines or books?" the bulletin asks. The claim that films are a medium of communication now has strong support," it observes. "Let us make the most of it."

MPTOA Hails

(*Continued from page* 1)

bidding," the bulletin says, "merely removes the immediate compulsion of licensing features that way."

"As to the stay of elimination of arbitration," the bulletin continues, "we are pleased because it has been our position since the decision in June that, with all of the new arbitrable matters created, many cumbersome, profitless 'trips to the courthouse' could be saved by a satisfactory system of arbitration, one which was optional and which would not in any way restrain the exhibitor from resorting to the courts if he wished to and one which would not preclude the Government from instituting appropriate proceedings for violations of the decree by the defendants.

"There are some valid objections to the present system of arbitration but none that could not be corrected. Without the continuation of the system, however, those changes and improvements would be too difficult of accomplishment," the bulletin concludes.

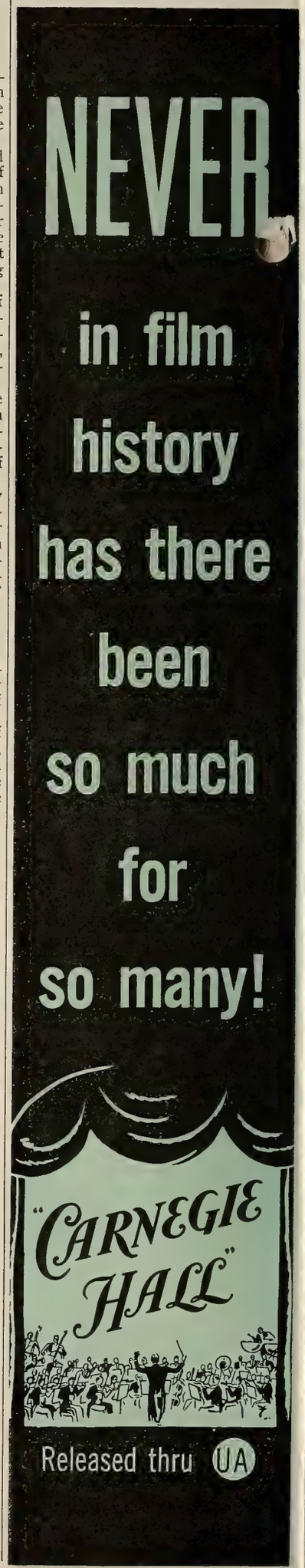
MPTOA's statement by Herman Levy, general counsel, in opposition to proposed increases in the theatre music tax by American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers is reprinted in the bulletin.

10 Denver 1st Runs

(*Continued from page* 1)

past, films have shown day-and-date at the Denver, Esquire, Webber, but the Esquire is being dropped out of this combination, and will be paired with the Paramount. The Aladdin will get its moveover from one of those two setups, while the Rialto will either get its moveover from the other, or from the Aladdin, as at present.

Last week the Bluebird, a neighborhood, was boosted to a first-run with the moveover of "The Jolson Story" from the Paramount, where it had been shown a week, in addition to two weeks each at the Denver, Webber, Esquire, Rialto, giving the film an all-time first-run record for Denver.



FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

V—61. NO. 74 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 1947 TEN CENTS

Walsh Repeats Solution for Ending Strike

Says Confab of Heads Of Unions Only Way Out

Hollywood, April 15. — Carpenter Union president William Hutcheson's instructions that no American Federation of Labor carpenters anywhere in the country may work on studio or theatre construction, a retaliatory action stemming from the present Hollywood strike, will come up at a meeting of the Building Trades Department of the AFL in Washington next Thursday. Hutcheson is now in Washington.

Conclusive evidence that the jurisdictional dispute in the West Coast studios can be settled only by conferences between the international presidents of the studio unions involved is contained in the latest action of William Hutcheson, head of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, according to

(*Continued on page 7*)

Sees Film Industry Televising Trailers

Speaking in behalf of films as the best all-around program material for television generally, John Flory, vice-president in charge of production for Grant, Flory and Williams, yesterday suggested that the motion picture industry may develop "glorified trailers (previews), containing real entertainment, to exploit its Hollywood features via television." Flory, whose

(*Continued on page 7*)

Industry Leaders at Dinner for Weitman

Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the New York Paramount Theatre, will be inducted as president of the Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith, here, at a dinner on Tuesday evening, April 29, at the Hotel Astor. At the same time tribute will be paid to retiring president Jack H. Levin.

Invited to the dais are: Barney Bal-

(*Continued on page 7*)

'U-I' Meeting Here Sat., Sun.

William A. Scully, Universal-International vice-president and general sales manager, will hold a two-day meeting of the company's district sales managers at the home office on Saturday and Sunday, to highlight future selling policies on "The Egg and I," and other U-I productions to be released during the next few months. On "The Egg and I," the district sales heads will be instructed on selling and booking policies to be pursued.

Selling policies will also be set on "Time Out of Mind," "Buck Privates Come Home," "Odd Man Out," "Great Expectations," "Stairway to Heaven," "Ivy," "Brute Force," "Something in the Wind," "Slave Girl," "Secret Beyond the Door," "Singapore," "The Lost Moment," "My Heart Goes Crazy" and "Pirates of Monterey."

District sales heads who will attend are: Foster M. Blake, Los Angeles; Pete T. Dana, Cleveland; Joe E. Gar-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Johnston Extols Films' World Role

WASHINGTON, April 15.—The role of motion pictures in national bi-partisan foreign policy was extolled today by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association.

"The motion picture is a vital element in the exchange of information so that peoples everywhere can un-

(*Continued on page 7*)

3-Way Media Snag Plagues St. Louis

St. Louis, April 15. — This city was without phones, newspapers and a radio station as the week started, the three local papers halting publication when pressmen failed to show up for work. Radio station KXOK, ABC outlet, was cut off from the network by a severed cable. The telephone strike was generally crippling because of the high percentage of manual phones in this area.

With newspaper advertising reduced, Ted Barker, publicity director for Loew's Theatres, obtained two extra radio spots elsewhere, and Fanchon and Marco maintained radio programs.

N. Y. Theatres To Press Ascap Suit

A treble-damage suit against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, filed in behalf of the operators of 164 independent theatres in New York some five years ago, but dormant since, will be pressed by the plaintiffs immediately, according to a spokesman for their attorneys, Weisman, Celler, Quinn, Allen and Spett.

Meanwhile, Ascap's motion to dismiss the complaint will be argued in Federal Court here on Friday. Ascap's motion is based on the allega-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Cut of U. S. Imports in England Seen as Remote

LONDON, April 15.—Possibility of a decrease in the importation of American motion pictures, in view of the fading American dollar in England, became remote today when Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton, in a budget message to Parliament, proposed a tremendous increase in the import tax on American tobacco, but made no reference to American films. The latter had been linked controversially in Parliament as being closely responsible with tobacco for the growing seriousness in the dollar situation.

At the same time, the Chancellor's budget message proposed no alteration in the entertainment tax.

The budget and the messages accom-

(*Continued on page 7*)

FCC To Grant Four N.Y. Video Licenses

WASHINGTON, April 15.—The Federal Communications Commission will grant applications for four new television stations in the New York Metropolitan Area, if no objections are filed within 20 days. The four applications are those of American Broadcasting, Bamberger Broadcasting, Bremer Broadcasting and the News Syndicate Co.

The FCC also approved five of 17 applications for the new Class "B" FM stations in the metropolitan area: those of WMCA, American Broadcasting, the News, North Jersey Broadcasting and Unity Broadcasting.

RKO Partners Are Reluctant To Break Up

Co-owners Have Fewer Problems as Associates

Prominent among the factors which have been delaying RKO's progress toward dissolving its theatre partnerships in conformance with the terms of the decision handed down by the New York Court in the industry anti-trust suit is an apparent reluctance on the part of independent exhibitor co-owners to sever what is accepted as an amicable, problem-alleviating business association, Malcolm Kingsberg, RKO Theatres president, said here yesterday.

Kingsberg emphasized, however, that the company, regarding itself as bound by the New York decision—and regardless of what may be the outcome of appeals to the U. S. Supreme Court—is continuously negotiating with its theatre partners with a

(*Continued on page 7*)

Coyne, Schwartz to Press NY Tax Fight

Robert W. Coyne, executive director of American Theatres Association, and Fred Schwartz, head of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, will appear before the New York State Tax Commission in Albany tomorrow to re-emphasize the already tax-burdened position of exhibition here in an effort to stave off new taxation by large cities and coun-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Chaplin Prices Cut; Reserved Seats Out

A reduced scale of prices, effective immediately, for Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux" at the Broadway Theatre, here, for weekdays will be 70 cents until one P.M., $1.00 until six and $1.25 from six until closing. On Saturdays, the picture will play at

(*Continued on page 7*)

In This Issue

"Honeymoon" and "Calcutta" are reviewed on page 4. Key city grosses begin on page 5.

Personal Mention

DR. HERBERT T. KALMUS, president of Technicolor Corp., will arrive here from the Coast on April 24 for a month's stay.

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ALBERT S. HOWSON, scenario editor and director of censorship for Warner Brothers, will be master of ceremonies for the 20th consecutive year at the annual luncheon of the Milk and Egg League for child health to be held May 6 at the Hotel Astor, here.

•

EDWARD J. REILLY, assistant to WILLIAM J. O'CONNELL, Paramount office manager here, and MRS. REILLY, became parents for the first time with the birth of a son, ROBERT HILTON REILLY, at Flushing, L. I., Hospital recently.

•

LYNN FARNOL, Samuel Goldwyn Productions' director of advertising-publicity, and BEN WASHER, Eastern advertising - publicity representative, left New York yesterday for the Coast. They will return on Friday.

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BOB DONAHUE, JR., RKO Pathe News cameraman, will leave here this month for Bocayuva, Brazil, to photograph the sun in total eclipse.

•

EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, United Artists' Eastern and Canadian sales manager, left here last night for visits to Scranton, Pa., and Buffalo.

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NORMAN ELSON, vice-president of Trans-Lux Theatres, is in Philadelphia from New York.

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FREDRIC MARCH has been named the 1947 "One World Award" winner in the motion picture field.

Bacon Ending 10-Year Tie with 20th-Fox

HOLLYWOOD, April 15.—After 10 years with 20th Century-Fox, director Lloyd Bacon will leave on completion of his direction of "Off to Buffalo," Walter Morosco Production, and will next produce and direct, in association with Sam Jaffe, "The Glittering Hill," based on the Clyde Murphy novel.

While "Glittering Hill" is being made ready for market, Bacon will go to Golden Productions where he will direct "Barnstorming," a *Saturday Evening Post* story based on the life of his father, Frank Bacon. Then he and Jaffe will make, independently, "Over the High Board Fence."

Comic Strip to Be Put on Television

HOLLYWOOD, April 15.—N. W. Ayer advertising agency has taken options for all its clients on a combination radio and television package deal featuring Zane Grey's King of the Royal Mounted. The 15-year-old comic strip will be converted to television immediately by using motion pictures of the newspaper cartoon strips.

Lutheran Churchmen Hit Indecent Films

Des Moines, April 15. — A resolution calling on Hollywood to "clean-up" motion pictures, was passed here yesterday by Iowa Lutheran welfare society directors.

The group especially protested against films that include drinking scenes, "intense love-making" and "suggestive dialogue." The 18 board members represent six large Iowa Lutheran groups with an adult membership of 131,740 in 486 churches, it was said.

Loew's Mayfair Here To Brandt on Lease

Loew's Mayfair Theatre, in midtown here, has been leased to Brandt Theatres in a five-year deal. Loew's, which purchased the theatre from Walter Reade a few years ago, has been operating the house on a subsequent-run, double-feature policy.

At Loew's here yesterday it was stated that the arrangement is "a good financial one," which, in addition to the fact that the company is substantially represented in the Broadway area with or without the Mayfair, is said to have prompted the deal. Brandt already has two first-runs, the Globe and the Gotham, on Broadway as well as 10 others in or bordering on the Times Square area.

MPTOA Elects New Vice-President

Lawrence E. Gordon, secretary of Butterfield Theatres, Detroit, has been elected a vice-president of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America by mail ballot, Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president, announced yesterday.

Gordon fills the vacancy which has existed since the death of E. C. Beatty, former head of Butterfield Theatres.

'Smash-Up' to Give Capitol $97,000

Universal - International's "Smash-Up," with Xavier Cugat's orchestra on the stage, is expected to gross $97,000 in its first week at the Capitol, here, which is described as being very high.

About $24,000 is indicated for the first week of U-I's "Buck Privates Come Home" at the Winter Garden.

22 Radio Shows Cite 20th-Fox 'Alexander'

With the addition of the Frank Sinatra show on April 23, and the Bing Crosby program on May 7, a total of 22 top radio shows are now lined up to promote the re-release of 20th Century-Fox's "Alexander's Ragtime Band."

The Sinatra show, on CBS, will be host to Irving Berlin. On the Crosby program, Al Jolson will appear with Berlin.

Greenblatt Leaving For Monogram Meet

Arthur Greenblatt, Eastern sales manager for Monogram, will leave here for Atlanta tomorrow to preside at a regional meeting of Southern exchanges of the company, to be held on Saturday and Sunday at the Atlanta Biltmore Hotel.

Branch managers from the Charlotte, Memphis, Atlanta and New Orleans exchanges will attend.

Arthur Bromberg, Monogram Southern franchise holder, will take part in the discussions, which will follow the same pattern as the meetings held in New York by Morey Goldstein, general sales manager, and Jack Schlaifer, director of sales, in Chicago, last weekend.

WB Theatre Officials At Cleveland Meet

CLEVELAND, April 15.—Harry M. Kalmine, general manager of Warner Theatres, accompanied by W. Stewart McDonald, vice-president, and Rudolph Weiss, head of the circuit's real estate department, arrived here today from New York to conduct a meeting of managers and other zone executives in Nat Wolf's territory.

On their way back to the home office, Kalmine and Weiss will stop in Pittsburgh for a session with Moe Silver, zone manager in that area.

Walders to Manage for RKO in Cleveland

Harry H. Walders has been appointed manager of RKO Radio's exchange in Cleveland, by Robert Mochrie, vice-president and general sales manager. Walders, who has been with the company's Chicago office since 1933, starting as booker, succeeds A. Kolitz, recently promoted to Rocky Mountain district manager with headquarters in Denver.

Cleveland Salesmen Elect Oscar Kantor

CLEVELAND, April 15.—Oscar Kantor of Warners has been elected president of the Salesmen's Club here, to succeed Leonard Mishkind.

Other new officers are: Franke Belles, RKO-Radio, first vice-president; Aaron Wayne, Paramount, second vice-president; Justin Spiegel, PRC, secretary; Edwin R. Bergman, PRC, treasurer.

Plan London - Paris Film

HOLLYWOOD, April 15.—William LeBaron and Boris Morros plan to film "The Lost Passage" in both London and Paris. Morros is already in London to check on availability of stage space. "The Lost Passage" is a musical written by LeBaron.

Reception for Mason

Universal-International and the J. Arthur Rank Organization will be hosts to the trade press at a reception in honor of British actor James Mason, to be held at the Stork Club, here, next Tuesday afternoon.

Newsreel Parade

FLOODS, fire and tornado come in for newsreel attention in current issue. Personalities presented include Henry Wallace and David Lilienthal with a remembrance of F.D.R. Also covered are sports and miscellaneous items. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 66—Europe's terrible winter climaxed by wild floods. Atomic Commission confirmed after Senate battle. Korean riots. Midwest tornado. Naval base fire. New Navy helicopter. Sports: Navy kids box; harness racing.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 264—$1,000,000 fire sweeps Navy base on Treasure Island. Five-minute Oklahoma tornado kills scores, injures 1,000. Rampaging Vistula destroys Polish bridges. 100,000 Koreans riot to protest occupation forces. UN home site dedicated in New York. Paris roller derby. Navy kid boxers.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 67 — San Francisco fire sweeps Treasure Island. Atomic Commission gets down to work. Britain hears Wallace. Riots in Korea. Navy juniors swap leather.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 69—Wallace in London on tour. Shoot at crowd in Korea. Lilienthal takes over atom. F.D.R. remembrance. Treasure Island blaze. Robinson becomes a Dodger. Polish floods snarl bridges.

UNIVERSAL, No. 30—Bridges topple into ice-jammed river as spring floods sweep Poland. Mass rioting in Korean capital. 150 die in Oklahoma tornado. Blaze on San Francisco Treasure Island. New Navy helicopter. Historic 14th Century spectacle re-enacted at Florence, Italy. Living statue gymnasts perform at Paris. "Small-fry" one-punch boxing match.

Auerbach To Fly to London for Optima

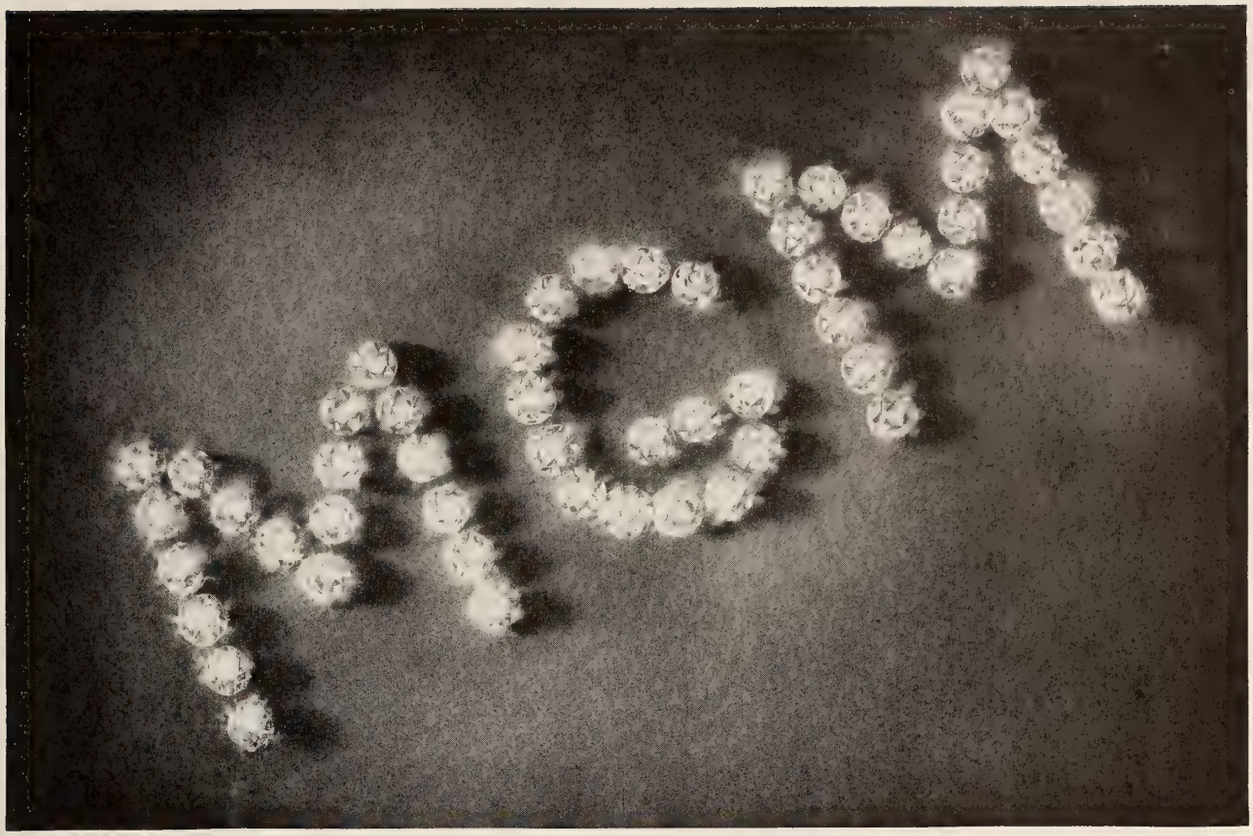
Joseph Auerbach, president of International Optima Corp., recently-formed distributing organization to handle independent productions for exhibition abroad, is slated to fly to London today. He will remain there three weeks.

International Optima, which took over assets of film Classics International, including rights to Hal Roach pictures, was set up by Auerbach, former vice-president, and Maurice Livingston, former president of Film Classics' foreign department, who is also vice-president of the new firm. The company is also handling foreign distribution for Astor Pictures and other independent producers through branches in France, Palestine, New Zealand and Brazil.

Selznick Establishes Exchange in Seattle

SEATTLE, April 15.—David O. Selznick has established a film exchange here, announces John Howard, special Selznick representative, after several days of negotiating. The new exchange will be headed by James Walsh, formerly of Republic's sales department here. Northwest distribution of all future Selznick productions, including "Duel in the Sun," scheduled to open here on May 7, will be handled through this office. Inspection and shipping of Selznick films will be done in this area by the Northwest Film Service, a member of the National Film Carriers.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Buraup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



THESE ARE REAL DIAMONDS!

After seeing some of the future M-G-M productions nearing completion at the Studio we decided the only adequate way to display the M-G-M name (*above*) was in genuine diamonds. Like the jewels in the photo, the subjects on this page are priceless gems destined to attract millions of fans and their dollars to the box-offices of America. Be sure yours is one of them!

★ **SUMMER HOLIDAY** (*Technicolor*)
Perfect blending of song and story in a Big Attraction! Mickey Rooney, Gloria DeHaven, Walter Huston, Frank Morgan, "Butch" Jenkins, Marilyn Maxwell, Agnes Moorehead, Selena Royle.

★ **LIVING IN A BIG WAY**
Music, fun, dancing and romancing. Gene Kelly and Marie McDonald plus Charles Winninger, Phyllis Thaxter, Spring Byington.

★ **THE UNFINISHED DANCE** (*Technicolor*)
Drama with music. Behind the scenes of the ballet. Margaret O'Brien, Cyd Charisse, Karin Booth, Danny Thomas.

★ **FIESTA** (*Technicolor*)
A fiesta of entertainment, romance, melody, adventure of Mexico. Esther Williams, Akim Tamiroff, Cyd Charisse, John Carroll, Mary Astor, Fortunio Bonanova, and introducing sensational Ricardo Montalban.

★ **THIS TIME FOR KEEPS** (*Technicolor*)
Merry, romantic, melodic, spectacular. Esther Williams, Lauritz Melchior, Jimmy Durante, Johnnie Johnston, Xavier Cugat and orchestra, Dame May Whitty, Sharon McManus.

★ **HIGH BARBAREE**
Thrilling romance by the authors of "Mutiny on the Bounty." Van Johnson, June Allyson, Thomas Mitchell, Marilyn Maxwell, Henry Hull, Claude Jarman, Jr.

★ **SONG OF LOVE**
One of the greatest! The romance of the composers Clara and Robert Schumann. Love, pathos, laughter, devotion, and marvelous music. Starring Katharine Hepburn, Paul Henreid, Robert Walker.

★ **GREEN DOLPHIN STREET**
Prize novel, best-seller, exciting, swash-buckling, romantic. Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed, Richard Hart, Frank Morgan, Edmund Gwenn, Dame May Whitty, Reginald Owen, Gladys Cooper.

★ **THE BIRDS AND THE BEES** (*Technicolor*)
By popular demand in a Big musical romance following her triumphant singing tour, Jeanette MacDonald co-starred with Jose Iturbi, Jane Powell and Edward Arnold, Harry Davenport.

Powell, Pressburger Close Korda Deal

LONDON, April 15.—Archers Productions, owned by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, makers of "Stairway to Heaven," who are regarded as one of the steady stand-bys of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, asserted its independence by announcing it will produce "Promotion of the Admiral" for Alexander Korda's London Films in 1948. Archers will resume production for Rank thereafter.

The announcement follows the resignation Saturday of Filippo Del Giudice as managing director of Rank's Two Cities Films, Ltd.

Powell and Pressburger are board members of Independent Producers, Ltd., of which Rank is chairman, and have had the financial backing of Rank.

It has been suggested that Rank may have a distribution understanding with Korda, but authoritative sources hold this to be untrue, except for an "undercover" agreement to avoid clashing of British Lion and General Film Distributors releases.

ZanuckChangesName Of Soviet Spy Film

HOLLYWOOD, April 15.—Darryl F. Zanuck has bought George Moorad's book, "Behind the Iron Curtain," and will make the Russian espionage film he announced last week under that title. Zanuck's original title was "The Iron Curtain," which Jack Warner claimed on Friday his studio had filed with the Motion Picture Association title bureau last year.

'Casualty' in Times Sq.

Ralph Padavano, one-armed veteran who stars in "The Forgotten Casualty," NYU-Bellevue rehabilitation film, was one of several on hand last night to pull a switch which started the two-week open-air showing of the film in Times Square. Also on hand were Gregory Peck, Lucienne Boyer and Mrs. James Doolittle.

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Reviews

"Honeymoon"

(RKO Radio)

Hollywood, April 15

WITH the names of Shirley Temple, Franchot Tone and Guy Madison for exploitation purposes, showmen should have no trouble selling what is, intrinsically, a rather thin little comedy. Miss Temple, as she matures, seems to lose little of her childish charm, which contrasts effectively with Tone's debonair portrayal of the kind of official the Consular Service needs.

Arriving in Mexico City to wed—without her parents' consent—a corporal stationed in the Canal Zone, Shirley loses touch with her bridegroom-to-be, and applies to the vice-consul for aid. He, involved romantically with a Mexican girl, finds it hard to explain persistent pursuit by the young lady who has lost her bridegroom. When Madison, the bridegroom, turns up, matters are not improved, for by that time it has been disclosed that Shirley is not of age and, furthermore, that she fancies herself in love with the vice-consul, whom she describes as "the Walter Pidgeon type."

Michael Kanin's screenplay, based on a story by Vicki Baum, arrives quite naturally at a happy ending. Unfortunately, many of the incidents leading up to that ending are repetitive, and William Keighley's direction fails to supply the light touch required to lift them from banality.

Warren Duff, under the executive supervision of Robert Sparks, has given the picture lavish production values. The sets, in particular, are a treat to the eye. Of the two song numbers included, "I Love Geraniums" is a simple, catchy tune.

Running time, 74 minutes. General audience classification. Release in block No. 5.

THALIA BELL

"Calcutta"

(Paramount)

Hollywood, April 15

THE presence of Alan Ladd, William Bendix and Gail Russell in the leads endows with practical exploitability this melodrama in which they and the other players are handicapped by a stencilled plot and a setting which warrants the title but adds nothing to the sum of entertainment values.

Backgrounded against the once dramatic profession of flying "the hump" between Calcutta and Chungking, the story narrows down quickly to a routine tale of jewel smuggling, and is handled in routine fashion. Ladd turns in a typical performance, against odds imposed by pattern dialogue and slow direction, but Bendix is virtually wasted, and Miss Russell is no match for the at best unrealistic role assigned her. The picture depends for exhibition success on the marquee strength of its personnel.

In the script, by Seton I. Miller, who also produced, with John Farrow directing, Ladd, Bendix and John Whitney are commercial pilots flying between Calcutta and Chungking. Whitney is mysteriously slain in Calcutta, and Ladd and Bendix set out to discover who killed him, and why. Miss Russell is seen as an American girl to whom the deceased was engaged, and with whom Ladd becomes infatuated. There are a number of odd characters met up with in the course of Ladd's persistent and ultimately successful attempt to learn the identity of his friend's killer, whom he kills in turn, although not precisely in revenge, after establishing that this sinister individual, a gambling resort operator, and Miss Russell have been partners in a jewel-smuggling operation. It is even more scrambled on the screen than it sounds above.

The cast also includes June Duprez, Lowell Gilmore, Edith King, Paul Singh, Gavin Muir, John Whitney and Benson Fong.

Running time 83 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER.

Beck Named Spitz's Assistant at U-I

HOLLYWOOD, April 15.—John Beck, general manager of Universal-International's studio since the merger, has been appointed executive assistant to Leo Spitz, executive production head.

Beck was International studio manager from 1943 until the merger.

Edward Muhl, formerly in charge of contract matters for Universal, replaces Beck as general manager of Universal-International.

Stewart in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, April 15.—James Stewart, star of Liberty Films' "It's a Wonderful Life," will be honor guest at a press reception in the Variety Club tomorrow preceding the premiere at the Alameda Theatre. Mexican film personalities who will attend include Emilio Azcarraga, owner of the Alameda Theatre and president of the Churubusco studios; Dolores Del Rio, Arturo De Cordova, Maria Felix and Augustin Lara. RKO Radio will be represented by E. F. Clarke, Latin American Division manager.

M-G-M Promotes Two In West Coast Branch

Jack P. Valpey, M-G-M head booker in the Los Angeles branch, has been appointed office manager, succeeding Joseph Markowitz who has been promoted to the sales force. Markowitz, with the company for the past 18 years, succeeds Sam Davis, recently promoted to manager of the Seattle branch. Valpey has been with the company 22 years.

Frank Shea Dies

SCHENECTADY, April 15.—Funeral services will be held here tomorrow for Frank Shea, theatre manager, who died today. Shea had managed the Crane Theatre here for several years after being Fabian city manager at Cohoes.

Columbia Dividend

Columbia Pictures' board of directors has declared a quarterly dividend of $1.06¼ per share on the $4.25 cumulative preferred stock of the company, payable on May 15 to stockholders of record on May 1.

Morgan to Tour for Paramount Shorts

Oscar A. Morgan, Paramount's short subjects sales manager, will announce next year's product line-up in Dallas on April 21 at the first of 31 meetings with district, branch and sales managers which the short subjects department will hold to discuss 1947-48 product.

During the three-month tour Morgan will visit every Paramount branch office, including Los Angeles, where studio conferences will also be held, and where he will describe business conditions and public and exhibitor preferences in a report which will serve as a guide for future shorts production and their release.

Radio Conference in New York April 22-23

Fifty radio artists, executives from the radio industry, and advertising agency officials will participate in the third annual radio and business conference to be held April 22-23 at the Pauline Edwards Theatre, City College School of Business, New York City. Robert A. Love is director of the conference.

"Radio and Its Public" will be the theme of the 1947 Conference which opens Tuesday evening, April 22, with 22 of the 50 artists and executives slated to discuss the subject "The Listeners Speak to Radio," in a session in radio show form, with New York Supreme Court Justice Ferdinand Pecora presiding.

N.Y.C. Has No Plans To Raise License Fees

New York City's administration has no plans whatever to increase the annual license fees paid by exhibitors, declares an administration spokesman following a report that a "prominent showman" had suggested that the fee for film theatres be increased to $500 to aid the city in its current drive for additional revenue. As reported, the suggestion was greeted with indignation and resentment in New York exhibition circles.



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Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CHICAGO

[illegible]th "California" and "Lady in the [illegible]" opened very big here. Business generally is very good. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 16-17:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 16th week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $12,000)
SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c). On stage: Georgie Price. 2nd week. Gross: $60,000. (Average: $62,000)
13 RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $13,000)
SMASH-UP (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,000)
WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Ted Weems and his orchestra. Gross: $57,000. (Average: $48,000)
TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U-I)—PALACE (2,500) (65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $24,000)
NORA PRENTISS (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $20,000)
CALIFORNIA (Para.)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (95c). Gross: $43,000. (Average: $29,000)
LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c) 5 days. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $27,000)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (Advanced admission prices: 95c-$1.20-$1.40-$1.80) 17th week. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $28,000) (Average at regular admission price of 95c: $20,000)

BALTIMORE

Notwithstanding a weekend of balmy weather which was conducive to outdoor recreation, new pictures opened strong. However, the remainder of the week is expected to bring about only average grosses and somewhat below average grosses where holdovers are concerned. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 17:

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $14,000)
SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $12,000)
CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (28c-40c-50c-58c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,000)
PURSUED (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-47c-50c-58c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $16,500)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (Advanced admission prices: 75c-$1.25) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average at regular admission prices of 35c-65c: $14,000)
THE RED HOUSE (UA)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,500)
I LIVE AS I PLEASE (MUC)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000)
IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-36c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $4,500)

PHILADELPHIA

"The Best Years of Our Lives" is doing capacity business at both the Arcadia and Pix theatres. At the Karlton, the world premiere of "The Imperfect Lady" doubled the theatre's average. Estimated grosses for the week ending April 15-17:

SMASH-UP (U-I)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $13,800)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ARCADIA (900) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average at regular admission prises of 54c-94c: $6,600)
STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,200. (Average: $21,000)
FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days, with vaudeville starring Count Basie. Gross, 6 days: $25,700, and SMASH-UP (U-I). Gross, 1 day: $4,000. (Average: $31,700)
CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $25,000)
SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $24,000)
THE IMPERFECT LADY (Para.)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $9,500)
BOOMERANG (20th-Fox)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week, 2nd run. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,200)
STALLION ROAD (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,700. (Average: $29,500)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PIX (500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $10,000)
THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $24,900. (Average: $27,000)
THE RED HOUSE (UA)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $15,900. (Average: $12,700)

TORONTO

A majority of Toronto first-runs held over their Easter week attractions and experienced some drop-off after the holiday rush during which patrons were lucky to get seats without waiting. Spring brought rains and there was considerable competition from hockey finals and a rodeo. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 17:

BLACK BEAUTY (20th-Fox) and STANLEY AND LIVINGSTONE (20th-Fox reissue)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,700. (Average: $5,000)
THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,800)
MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $14,300)
THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $15,800. (Average: $13,800)
SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,300. (Average: $14,800)
THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,500)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $11,400)
BLACK BEAUTY (20th-Fox) and STANLEY AND LIVINGSTONE (20th-Fox reissue)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,800)

ATLANTA

Good weather has aided business considerably. "Song of Scheherazade" is making the best showing with $14,300 expected for a week that is bringing above-average grosses generally. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 16:

SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I)—FOX (4,661) (30c-50c). Gross: $14,300. (Average: $13,000)
THE STRANGER (RKO Radio)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (30c-50c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,300)
SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—ROXY (2,446) 2nd week on moveover from the Fox. Gross: $6,200. (Average: $5,600)
THE WEDDING NIGHT (Film Classics) and WILD BEAUTY (U-I)—CAPITAL (2,446) (30c-44c). Gross: $6,100. (Average: $5,200)
THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,454) (30c-50c). Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,000)

(Continued on following page)



Key City Grosses

(Continued from preceding page)

SALT LAKE CITY

Ideal spring weather prevailed here this week. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 10:

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,800)

SUDDENLY ITS SPRING (Para.)—CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,600)

CIGARETTE GIRL (Col.) and CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT (Col.) LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, with vaudeville. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $3,700)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RIALTO (1,300) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.50) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average, at regular prices of 20c-75c: $5,900)

OPEN CITY (Mayer and Burstyn)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $4,800)

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,900)

'TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (M-G-M)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $12,300)

ST. LOUIS

With weather spotty, business bounced back to average grosses after the holidays. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 16:

PURSUED (WB) and LIGHTHOUSE (PRC)—AMBASSADOR (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $17,800)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,000)

LOVE LAUGHS AT ANDY HARDY (M-G-M) and TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $20,000)

GANGS, INC. (Madison reissue) and MEN OF SAN QUENTIN (Madison reissue)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,900)

BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS (WB) and THE BRUTE MAN (PRC)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,500)

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,500)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio) — SHUBERT (2,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.20) 7 days, on a move-over from three weeks at the St. Louis. Gross: $9,500. (Regular admission prices: 40c-60c)

CINCINNATI

Plus signs are well distributed throughout the current offerings. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 15-18:

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RKO CAPITOL (2,700) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.40-$1.50) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c: $10,000)

STRANGE JOURNEY (20th-Fox) and BILLY THE KID WANTED (PRC reissue)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $1,800. (Average: $1,600)

MEN OF SAN QUENTIN (Popular) and COME ON, TARZAN (Popular)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Gross: $1,200. (Average: $1,100)

PURSUED (WB)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $7,500)

CONGORILLA (Morro) and BABOONA (Morro)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000)

BOOM TOWN (M-G-M reissue)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000)

Critics' Quotes . . .

"MONSIEUR VERDOUX" *(Charles Chaplin-United Artists)*

"Monsieur Verdoux" is a film of changing moods. It runs the gamut of satire, slapstick, drama and problem drama. . . . Not only is Chaplin the star, but its author, director and musical composer. And he has been eminently successful in all fields.—*Robert Coleman, New York Daily Mirror.*

Chaplin has attempted, with inconspicuous success, to mix sentiment, slapstick comedy and horror.—*Kate Cameron, New York Daily News.*

In "Monsieur Verdoux" Charles Chaplin has composed what he likes to term "a comedy of murders" with a woeful lack of humor, melodrama or dramatic taste. The hand of the screen master is apparent in very few sequences.—*Howard Barnes, New York Herald Tribune.*

. . . a curiously uneven production . . . when he sticks to slapstick comedy, Charles Chaplin is amusing. When he turns to sad-eyed philosophy and soapbox oratory, he is neither funny nor convincing.—*Rose Pelswick, New York Journal-American.*

"Monsieur Verdoux" has some acts of comic creation no one but Chaplin could give us. They make it a picture to be seen. But don't expect to hang onto your seat and don't count on much of an intellectual or emotional lift at the end.—*Archer Winsten, New York Post.*

As entertainment, as a means of whiling away a couple of hours at the movies, "Monsieur Verdoux" is a moderate success leaning upon nostalgia and affection for the Chaplin legend.—*Cecelia Ager, PM.*

"Monsieur Verdoux" is a grim little picture, brightened with bits of not so very bright comedy. Because Charles Chaplin was once Charlie Chaplin and a very funny fellow, any reviewer must feel regret in reporting such decline.—*Eileen Creelman, New York Sun.*

Unfortunately, Mr. Chaplin has not managed his film with great success. It is slow—tediously slow—in many stretches and thus monotonous. The bursts of comic invention fit uncomfortably into the grim fabric and the clarity of the philosophy does not begin to emerge till near the end. . . . However, it must be said for him his performance is remarkably adroit.—*Bosley Crowther, New York Times.*

His first venture out of the tramp suit in "Monsieur Verdoux" has its good moments but many more that are just draggingly dull.—*Alton Cook, New York World-Telegram.*

'U-I' Meeting Here

(Continued from page 1)

rison, St. Louis; Mannie M. Gottlieb, Chicago; Ed Heiber, Kansas City; Dave Miller, Buffalo; Barney Rose, San Francisco; Peter F. Rosian, Cincinnati; John J. Scully, Boston.

Division managers who will attend include: Fred Meyers, Eastern division; C. J. Feldman, Western; F. J. A. McCarthy, Southern and Canadian division. Scully will be assisted by J. O'Keefe, assistant general sales manager, and E. T. Gomersall, assistant to Scully. Home office executives who will attend include Maurice A. Bergman, E. L. McEvoy, James J. Jordan, J. H. Huber, Ray Coyle, Frank Mooney, Milton Schneiderman, Sam Friedel, Morris Alin and Gene Kingston.

U-I European Sales Meet Hears Seidelman, Daff

Universal-International's home office stated here yesterday that the first post-war sales convention in Europe, which has ended in Paris, brought together U-I executives from France, Great Britain, Belgium, Denmark, Greece, Spain, Italy, Norway, Sweden, North Africa, Switzerland, Portugal and the Near East.

Delegates heard J. H. Seidelman, president of the U-I foreign export subsidiary, discuss details of the merger of Universal and International.

Reflecting the spirit of the conference, Seidelman declared, "I know we can look forward to a great year of business." Al Daff, vice-president of the company, announced 25 new films. Harry Novak, Continental supervisor, introduced Daff.

The convention agenda also included an outline by Harold Sugarman of the plans of the company in the 16mm field in Europe.

Delegates included Ferdinand Rieger, manager, Branch Operations; Louis Foeldes, Europe; Andre Salib, Near East; Max Mendel, Scandinavia; Joseph Denis, Belgium; John Marshall, Belgium; K. E. Joergensen, Denmark; Etienne Descombey, France; Raphael Bernard, France; Victor Michaelides, Greece; Emmanuel Zama, Italy; Henry Lombroso, Italy; Amieto Faiola, Italy; A. H. Haslund, Norway; Enrique Aguilar, Spain-Portugal; Manuel Bofill, Spain; L. Gussen, Sweden; A. Cosandey, Switzerland; Jack Sullivan, U. K. and Eire; Bernard Goldman, France; Rene Delcourt, Northern France; E. Hoskier, North Africa; Christian Cocteau, France; Andree Deschryvere, Paris; J. C. Ferraud, Marseilles; Gabriel Armand, Bordeaux; N. Muccielli, Toulouse; Hoche Destrez, Lille; Christophe Goldstein, Lyons, and Marc Ehmann, Strasbourg.

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Chaplin Cuts

(*Continued from page* 1)

70 cents until one P.M., advancing to $1.25 until six and $1.50 from six until closing. Original scale of admission for the picture, which opened here last Friday, was from 80 cents to $1.80.

On Sundays, "Verdoux" will play at $1.00 until three P.M., advancing to $1.25 until six and $1.50 from six t[illegible] closing. All seats will be unreserved. It was originally intended to reserve 250 seats in the mezzanine, once daily, at $1.80, and once nightly at $2.40. Under the reduced scale, general prices will also apply to the mezzanine.

Markle Named Manager Of Broadway Theatre

John Markle has been appointed managing director of the Broadway Theatre, here, for United Artists, which theatre is currently housing Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux."

Markle, who has been associated with several theatre circuits in the past, most recently handled "Henry V" engagements for United Artists as special representative in Boston and Philadelphia.

Chaplin Trial Tomorrow

The $5,000,000 damage suit filed in 1941 by Conrad Bercovici against Charles Chaplin for payment of services rendered in connection with a writing deal involving "The Great Dictator," and for a share of the alleged $10,000,000 profits on the picture, is slated to go to trial in New York Federal Court tomorrow.

Televising Trailers

(*Continued from page* 1)

company produces documentary, educational and television films, addressed the meeting of the Television Institute, at the Hotel Commodore here yesterday.

Flory spoke at length on the advantages of films as against "live" shows. He said films are "the most practical way of achieving a national network. It overcomes costs and technical difficulties, will be especially important in tying together small and remotely situated stations during early stages of the industry. Indications are that the film will be cheaper than expensive coaxial cables or relay stations."

He pointed to the possibility of errors in "live" presentations whereas these could be eliminated simply by re-shooting a film scene. And the sponsor knows in advance what he is paying for, he added.

Flory touched on a matter which has been the subject of speculation for some time but generally discounted by television executives as premature, declaring: "Some years hence it may not be surprising to find television broadcasting stations organizing their own newsreel companies."

Weitman

(*Continued from page* 1)

aban, Jack Cohn, Malcolm Kingsberg, Herman Robbins, Leonard Goldenson, Harry Brandt, Si Fabian, Max Cohen, Sam Rinzler, Maurice A. Bergman, A. J. Balaban, and others. Marvin Kirsch is chairman of the entertainment committee.

Local NJ Tax Bill Repassed

Trenton, April 15. — The state assembly has repassed the sales tax measure which permits seaboard municipalities to impose a three per cent admission tax and other levies. The bill had been passed by the assembly previously, but was sent back after inaccuracies in the voting count were discovered.

RKO Partners

(*Continued from page* 1)

view toward striking satisfactory dissolution deals. But, he added, the problem as to which partner is to buy and which is to sell, and difficulties in arriving at mutually-acceptable purchasing prices are also hampering the company's efforts to comply with the partnership dissolution terms of the decision.

Insofar as the dissolution of pools is concerned, Kingsberg said, all such tie-ups which RKO had with theatre-owning distributors were dissolved about one year ago. He said only a few pools still exist with independent exhibitors and these currently are in process of dissolution.

Thus far the only partnership dissolution that has been effected, he said, concerns Affiliated Theatres of Iowa in which RKO had a 10 per cent interest and which Affiliated has bought. The New York decree allows two years from Dec. 31, 1946, for the divestiture of partnership holdings, while the deadline set for getting underway dissolution of pools with co-defendants in the equity suit is July 1, 1947, and with independents was April 1.

NY Tax Fight

(*Continued from page* 1)

ties as recently authorized by the state legislature.

Coyne and Schwartz were elected to represent the state's exhibitors at a meeting of theatre executives in the office here of Oscar Doob of Loew's yesterday. They will be joined at the hearing by Charles Smakwitz, Warner Theatres zone manager in Albany.

The group will point to the 20 per cent Federal tax as being too substantial to allow for more levies and will offer figures at the call of the Tax Commission showing that the five per cent additional burden which has been proposed would not mean any great source of revenue for a city but would result in added hardships for theatres.

Ascap Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

tion that the theatremen are guilty of negligence in matters of pre-trial examinations. The exhibitors contend that they and Ascap agreed to suspend the case during the war.

The theatre plaintiffs charge restraint of trade, and ask an injunction to restrain Ascap entirely from levying music performing fees, in addition to continuing damages, which now amount to over $300,000.

It was said that the Weisman, Celler firm will insist on immediate conclusion of all pre-trial examinations in order to bring the case to trial at the earliest date.

Walsh Repeats

(*Continued from page* 1)

Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, here.

As reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Hutcheson has delegated negotiating authority to the Hollywood local, but with the proviso that no jurisdiction be yielded by the local.

This proviso, Walsh declared, leaves no room for actual negotiations by the local, thus illustrating his earlier contention that the issues have become so involved that they cannot be settled on the local level. By the drastic restriction on the "authority" he has "delegated," Hutcheson indicates the need for retaining the real authority, Walsh pointed out.

Walsh declared that he remains willing, as he has stated several times before, to meet with Hutcheson and L. P. Lindelof, international president of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, either together or individually, and to make a fresh effort to work out a settlement, which would have to include assurance that "the local unions would no longer be used as instruments of a Communist program."

Only unions affiliated with the Carpenters and Painters remain in the Hollywood strike, members of all others having been ordered back to work by their presidents. Members of the "IA" locals have remained on the job. The strike, sponsored by the Conference of Studio Unions, began last September following a dispute over carpenter work on studio sets.

Johnston

(*Continued from page* 1)

derstand each other better," Johnston said.

Johnston again denied charges of Communist domination in Hollywood and stated that the industry does "almost no business with countries behind the 'iron curtain'." American films are practically excluded from Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Poland and Russia.

In Czechoslovakia, Johnston pointed out, where 60 per cent of the playing time in all theatres must be devoted to Russian films, there are block long queues in front of theatres where American pictures are playing in spite of the fact that the Russians provide free tickets and free transportation to Russian films.

Speaking to a capacity audience at the Washington Advertising Club luncheon in the Hotel Statler, Johnston decried the propagandistic approach of the Russian film industry, stating that our pictures should be free from influence. "The best propaganda," he said, "is no propaganda at all. The best way to show American life is to show it as it actually is."

Cut of Imports

(*Continued from page* 1)

panying it are, of course, government-sponsored and are likely to carry, against the wishes of a small minority, which, led by Winston Churchill, has been fighting in Parliament to decrease dollar expenditures for U. S. films.

Dollar expenditures for U. S. films are far from being as great as those for tobacco, expenditures for the latter last year reaching $157,976,000, against an expenditure of only $35,464,000 for Hollywood product.



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Republic Will Increase Ad Budgets: Yates

Regular and 'Special' Budgets at $5,000,000

"During the coming year over $4,000,000 will be spent on advertising, promotion and exploitation of our regular product, with additional individual budgets being established for special productions," Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic, told the closing session of the three-day sales meeting at the studio, the company reported here yesterday. This is an increase of $500,000 over last year's budget.



Herbert J. Yates

The "special" budgets for various selected productions are expected to

(Continued on page 7)

Studio Post-Offer Is Made to Siegel

HOLLYWOOD, April 16.—Moe Siegel, former production executive of Republic Pictures, is understood to have been approached by Herbert J. Yates, Republic president, with an offer to return to that company's North Hollywood studio, but indicated reluctance, preferring, instead, to produce on his own. As an independent, it is possible that Siegel might produce for Republic release.

Meanwhile, Yates is due in New York, on Tuesday, from Hollywood, to preside at a board meeting at the home office next Tuesday.

Schoenstadt Zorn On M.P. Foundation

CHICAGO, April 16.—Arthur Schoenstadt of the Schoenstadt Circuit here was elected national trustee for the Chicago area of the Motion Picture Foundation, at a meeting held today

(Continued on page 7)

Nat'l Circuit For Mirisch

A national circuit of independent first-run theatres in cities of 250,000 population or more will be established by Harold Mirisch, formerly chief booker and film buyer of RKO Theatres, in partnership with Arthur Steel, independent theatre owner, Mirisch disclosed here yesterday. Negotiations are already under way for several properties. The first link, the Key, in Indianapolis, will be inaugurated on April 30.

Hitherto a first-run for Universal-International product, the Key will henceforth be a first-run for all product, opening with Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives," Mirisch said.

Mirisch, who is also head of Theatre Candy Co., which supplies candy to theatre concessions, further disclosed that he is now concluding a

(Continued on page 5)

Ascap Inaugurates Exhibitor Meetings

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will endeavor to arrange meetings in the near future with representatives of exhibitor organizations to discuss the society's views of an increase in music tax rates for theatres, John G. Paine, general manager of Ascap, said here yesterday.

An informal meeting, the first of its

(Continued on page 7)

Painters Asked to Talks by Boren

Hollywood, April 16. — The producers' labor contact, Charles Boren, today telegraphed the Painters' Union international representative Joseph V. Cambiano, now at San Mateo, an invitation to meet with the producers' labor committee on April 21 at the Producer Association's headquarters for purposes of negotiation.

Informed quarters here estimate that today's move, which may be an outgrowth of the labor committee's meeting with company heads in New York, could lead toward ultimate settlement of the strike.

Two Votes for MPA Member Companies

A Motion Picture Association by-law which would give each of its seven member companies two votes instead of the present one, this one held by each company president, will be passed at the next board meeting, according to an MPA spokesman here.

The second vote presumably will go to vice-presidents active in MPA affairs, including: John J. O'Connor, Universal; Austin Keough, Paramount; Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio; J. Robert Rubin, Loew's; Robert Perkins, Warners; William Michel, 20th-Fox, and Jack Cohn, Columbia.

US Approves 16 Theatre Building Applications

WASHINGTON, April 16. — Sixteen applications to build or remodel theatres in various parts of the country have been approved by the Office of the Housing Expediter.

Six approvals were on the basis of severe hardship: Richards-Lightman Theatres Corp., Hope, Ark., to replace a fire loss; Louis P. and J. R. Gold, Belle Glade, Fla., to replace a building condemned; H. N. Beamer, Hailey, Ida., to relieve hardship through prior commitments; Tuscarawas Amusement Co., Ulrichsville, O., to repair a fire-damaged theatre; H. W. Leriger, Lyons, Nebr., and Ross B. Mehl, Walnut Creek, Cal., both because of eviction from present premises. Neil Hellman, of Albany, N. Y., received approval of an $8,000

(Continued on page 7)

Believe 3 Theatres Leveled in Texas

Dallas, April 16.—Film Row here is awaiting word on the extent of damage to the three theatres in Texas City which was severely damaged today by an explosion which rocked a 100-mile area and killed hundreds. It is believed that the houses—the Jewel, Showboat and Texas — could not have survived the terrific blast which, according to press service wires, even demolished the city's radio station.

20th Moving Slowly On Dissolutions

Little Action Is Likely Prior to Appeal Ruling

There is little likelihood that 20th Century-Fox will consummate dissolution of its theatre partnerships, held by National Theatres, its subsidiary, until after the U. S. Supreme Court decides the appeals from the New York Federal Court's decision in the industry anti-trust suit, Dan Michalove, National Theatres vice-president, said here yesterday.

On Tuesday, MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported that Paramount has decided to keep intact all of its theatre partnerships pending the high court's decision.

Thus far, Michalove reports, there have been generally only informal discussions between National and its theatre partners on dissolution. The discussions perhaps will not get beyond the casual stage until after the appeals' decision, and then, of course, the turn the discussions will take de-

(Continued on page 7)

RKO and National In Dissolution Pact

RKO and National Theatres have established an arrangement, subject to Federal Court approval under the terms of the decision handed down in the industry anti-trust suit, for dissolution of their partnership in the only theatre in which the two companies are so associated, the long-shuttered, 3,040-seat Main Street in Kansas City, Mo., an RKO Theatres spokesman disclosed here yesterday. Each company holds a 50 per cent interest in the house.

Under the terms of the arrange-

(Continued on page 7)

First General UJA Meet Here Friday

Barney Balaban, national chairman, announced yesterday that the first general meeting to organize company chairmen for the industry's drive to raise $2,100,000 for the United Jewish Appeal will be held tomorrow at a

(Continued on page 7)

Personal Mention

ERIC A. JOHNSTON, president of the Motion Picture Association, will arrive here tomorrow from Washington en route to his home in Spokane. He is expected back in New York in 10 days.

•

CLARENCE BROWN, producer-director, will leave Hollywood shortly for a two-month tour of Central and South America. Thereafter he will go to London.

•

RUTGERS NIELSON, RKO Radio publicity manager and retiring president of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, will celebrate his 25th wedding anniversary today.

•

DON V. TIBBS, manager of the Salt Lake City Monogram branch, was elected president of the Salt Lake Round Table at a recent meeting at the Hotel Utah, there.

•

PHIL MONSKY, Universal-International salesman in Omaha, has left the hospital, where he spent three weeks following an operation.

•

KENNETH CLARK, director of public relations for the Motion Picture Association, was in town from Washington yesterday.

•

FRANK W. CARLOW, Scottish circuit owner, has left Hollywood for New York, en route back to Scotland.

100 at NSS Meeting In Chicago Today

CHICAGO, April 16. — The Drake Hotel here will be the scene tomorrow of the opening of National Screen Service's three-day international convention, its second since the war, at which 100 will be present.

From 31 branches NSS managers and salesmen will join with home office executives in a discussion of company policy with regard to sales and service.

Westermann to Wilding

HOLLYWOOD, April 16.—T. H. Westermann has joined Wilding Productions in an executive capacity, J. W. Inglefield, Wilding vice-president, announces. Westermann was formerly sales manager of Sutherland Productions.

White Leaves Wil-Kin

CHARLOTTE, April 16. — W. P. White, branch manager of the Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Co., has resigned effective May 1. White has been in the theatre supply business for 28 years, mostly in Charlotte.

New Academy Publicist

HOLLYWOOD, April 16.—Howard G. Mayer and Associates has been appointed to handle public relations under a three-man control board established two weeks ago by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Reade's Appeal in RKO Suit Up in May

The court fight brought by Walter Reade against RKO Theatres, involving operation of the 13-unit Trenton-New Brunswick Theatres Co., New Jersey, is slated to be heard by the Appellate Division, New York Supreme Court, early next month.

According to court records, Reade, who owns 25 per cent of the circuit, filed a complaint and motion for an injunction against RKO, 50 per cent owner, in June, 1945, charging that a management contract signed by the three owners of the theatre company be declared illegal. The pact, which was substantially a renewal of an original agreement dating back 20 years, provides that the circuit be managed by four directors, two for RKO and one each for Reade and the third partner, the estate of the late Frank V. Storrs.

Motive for Reade's action has yet to be brought to the surface since his complaint brings no charges of mismanagement, but merely asserts that the 1942 arrangement be declared "illegal as a matter of law."

In 1945 a New York Supreme Court ruling denied Reade's petition for an injunction and directed that he serve an amended complaint against RKO. Reade subsequently suffered two more legal setbacks and brought the case to the Appellate Division here. He has retained John W. Davis, Loew's special counsel in the industry anti-trust case, to argue the appeal.

E-L Officials Will Tour 31 Exchanges

Alfred W. Schwalberg, Eagle-Lion vice-president and sales manager, and Max A. Youngstein, advertising and publicity director, will tour the company's 31 exchanges within a month to acquaint managers with E-L's plans for the year and to co-ordinate branch selling and promotion plans into a national promotion program. Schwalberg has already visited Los Angeles, San Francisco, Dallas and Oklahoma City.

Youngstein and Jerry Pickman, publicity manager, have returned here from conferences in Hollywood on future product with Arthur B. Krim, E-L president; Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of production; Sam Israel, studio publicity director; and Schwalberg.

Mochrie Presides at Luncheon for Poller

M. G. (Mike) Poller, who was married six weeks ago to the former Helen McGinnis of RKO Theatres, was honor guest at a bachelor luncheon held yesterday at the Hotel Victoria here. Poller is assistant to Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio distribution vice-president, who was toastmaster.

Some 95 RKO associates of Poller attended, including Ned E. Depinet, Leon J. Bamberger, Terry Turner and Sol Schwartz, all of whom spoke. Also on the dais were: Gordon Young, Malcolm Kingsberg, Harry Michalson, S. Barret McCormick, Walter Branson and Nat Levy.

3 Groups Negotiate New SAG Contract

Hollywood, April 16.—Joint committees of the Associated Motion Picture Producers, Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers and Independent Motion Picture Producers Association met here last night with the Screen Actors Guild to map procedure for a month-long series of conferences on a new Guild contract to replace the 10-year pact which will expire on May 15. The next meeting has been set for Tuesday.

The negotiations are the first in which the three producers' associations have acted jointly.

Hope Prevails for Veto of N. J. Tax

The Federation of New Jersey Theatre Owners is holding out hope that Gov. Driscoll of New Jersey will veto the legislature-approved bill which would empower coastal cities to levy three per cent theatre admission taxes. It is basing its hope, according to Thornton Kelley, New Jersey Allied executive secretary, on the fact that Gov. Driscoll campaigned for office last year on a "no new taxes" platform. The legislature is scheduled to adjourn this week and the governor has five days following adjournment to act upon the measure.

The Federation, which is composed of various New Jersey circuits and exhibitor associations, including Allied, has filed a brief with the governor urging that the bill be vetoed. Additionally, individual members are wiring protests to Driscoll. The measure, Assembly Bill No. 343, was introduced only a few days ago following recall by the Assembly of bill No. 27 which it replaced as a result of of charges of an unfair vote count on No. 27 in that house. The new bill was promptly passed in the Assembly and Senate.

Scheftel, Burger Buy Cleveland Building

CLEVELAND, April 16.—Purchase of the entire capital stock of the 11-story Hippodrome Building here for $3,000,000 by Herbert Scheftel and Alfred G. Burger of Telenews Circuit has been announced. The 3,500-seat Warner's Hippodrome is the largest local first-run.

The Warner theatre lease has a considerable period to run, it is understood.

Astor Finishes Musical

Astor Pictures has completed an all-Negro musical, "Ebony Parade", starring Cab Calloway, Count Basie, the Mills Brothers, Mantan Moreland and the team of Day, Dawn and Dusk. R. M. Savini, president of Astor Pictures, reports that accessories are being completed and the picture will be released shortly.

Three Are Named to World Radio Meets

WASHINGTON, April 16.—President Truman today appointed three top government officials chairmen of United States delegations to international radio and communications conferences to be held in Atlantic City.

FCC Chairman Charles Denny will head the delegation to the International Radio Conference which convenes on May 15. Garrison Norton, Assistant Secretary of State, was named chairman of the delegation to the International Plenipotentiary Telecommunication Conference, which opens on July 1. Assistant Secretary of State William Benton heads the delegation to the High Frequency Broadcasting Conference, which will follow the Telecommunication Conference.

The three conferences are being convened by the United States in order to resolve problems arising from advancement and dislocations in telecommunication during the war.

The objective of the International Radio Conference will be a complete revision of the existing International General Radio Regulations adopted at Cairo in 1938. The telecommunication conference will revise the International Telecommunication Convention adopted in 1932 at Madrid. Outstanding questions in world shortwave broadcasting will be settled at the high frequency broadcasting conference.

Hollywood Stars at AMPA Dinner

Hollywood stars visiting in the East are being invited to the dais on the occasion of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' 30th anniversary dinner-dance salute to motion picture industry presidents, to be held in the Hotel Astor on the evening of Wednesday, April 23.

The list of those invited includes Bing Crosby, Mary Pickford, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Dorothy Lamour, Joseph Cotten, Charles Chaplin, Rita Hayworth, Ann Sheridan, Fredric March, Fred Astaire, Lily Pons, Jean Hersholt and Ann Miller.

The entire roster of AMPA is receiving illuminated certificates of membership from Rutgers Neilson, president.

Kramer Heads Own Hollywood Company

HOLLYWOOD, April 16.—Stanley Kramer, former executive of the Armand Deutsch-Hal Horne Story Productions, has formed an independent producing company of his own, to be known as Screenplays, Inc. It will produce for both regular theatrical and television channels.

SGP Set to Release Colmes Productions

HOLLYWOOD, April 16.—Walter Colmes, independent producer, has organized Somerset Pictures Corp. to produce an undisclosed number of pictures for distribution through Screen Guild Productions. He will start his first picture in May.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco. London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

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SEA HAWK

ERROL FLYNN
CLAUDE RAINS
BRENDA MARSHALL
DONALD CRISP
FLORA ROBSON
ALAN HALE
DIRECTED BY MICHAEL CURTIZ

From the novel by RAFAEL SABATINI • Screen Play by Howard Koch, Seton I. Miller
Music by Erich Wolfgang Korngold

WARNER RE-RELEASE



SEA WOLF

EDWARD G. ROBINSON
IDA LUPINO
JOHN GARFIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
ALEXANDER KNOX • GENE LOCKHART
DIRECTED BY MICHAEL CURTIZ

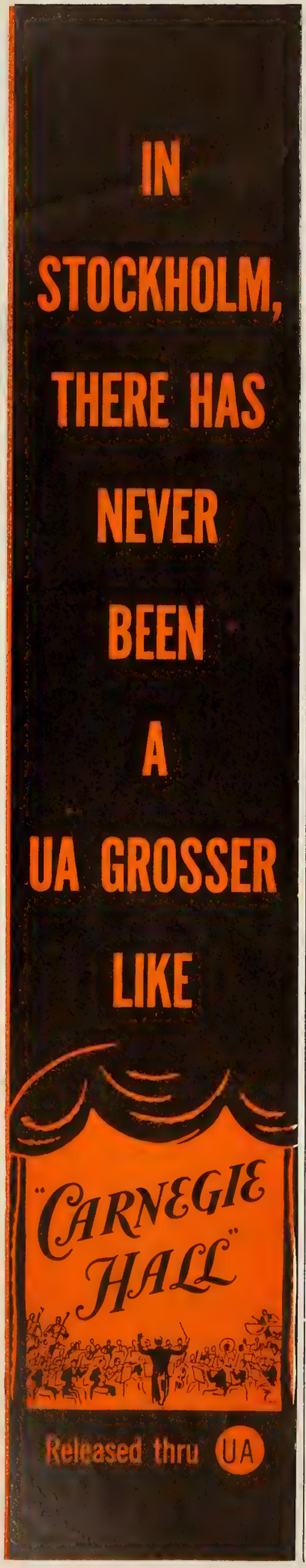
From the novel by JACK LONDON • Screen Play by Robert Rossen • Music by Erich Wolfgang Korngold

WARNER RE-RELEASE

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RIALTO Chicago
PAN Minn
OGER SHERMAN New Haven
GRAND Columbus
STRAND Hartford
OHIO L
ARNER Hollywood
WILTERN Hollywood
WARNER Los Angeles
BRANDEIS Oma
TANLEY Baltimore
ORPHEUM Des Moines
WARNER Milwaukee
CIRCLE Indiana
ARAMOUNT Syracuse
ORPHEUM St. Paul
GRAND Cincinnati
WARN
ARNER Bridgeport
STANLEY Atlantic City
ALDINE Philadelphia
PA

...a few of the first 267 dates set and running now!



Short Subjects

"Storm Over Britain"

(*March of Time—20th Century-Fox*)

A rather gloomy portrait of post-war Britain fighting one of its toughest battles, is the subject of the latest March of Time. Heir to an acute manpower, raw material and food shortage which has followed in the wake of the war, the British Labor government, the commentary points out, while having incurred the wrathful indignation of many of its citizens, still maintains strong support among the average Briton.

Key source of England's troubles is the need for accumulating credit overseas and, therefore, diverting needed materials for export. But in spite of the dim immediate prospects, the film emphasizes the "indomitable will and spirit" of the people to carry through until they have won their battle. Running time, 18 minutes.

"Forgotten Island"

(*This Is America—RKO Radio*)

Puerto Rico, taken from Spain 50 years ago as war indemnity making it American territory, constitutes an informative subject for a travelogue as the cameras give a varied picture of life there. Edited with careful balance, the subject shows the flourishing wealth and architecture—as well as the slums and unemployment.

To exploit the island's meager resources, experimental stations have been established, pure-bred cattle imported and vocational schools set up. The film offers an absorbing analysis of the problems facing one of our vital outposts. Frederic Ullman, Jr. produced. Running time, 18 minutes.

Legion Rates Twelve Additional Pictures

The National Legion of Decency has given the following films an A-I classification: "San Demetrio, London," 20th Century-Fox; "That's My Man" and "Yankee Fakir," both Republic; "This Happy Breed," Prestige-Universal; "Three on a Ticket," PRC; "West of Dodge City," Columbia. Rated A-II were: "The Arnelo Affair," M-G-M; "Carnival of Sinners" (French), Distinguished; "The Egg and I," Universal-International; "The Ghost Goes Wild," Republic; "Tarzan and the Huntress," RKO Radio.

Paramount's "Fear in the Night" was rated Class B.

Washington Houses Sold

SEATTLE, April 16.—Walter Roe, operator of the American and Broadway Theatres here, has bought the Pix Theatre in Ranier Valley from Fred Estleman, who, in turn, has bought the Vogue in Cle Elum from Harry Ulsh.

Meyer Fine in Deal

CLEVELAND, April 16.—Meyer Fine of Associated Theatres heads the Fenway Hall Corp., which was formed to buy the Fenway Hall Hotel for $1,500,000. The same corporation is said to have purchased the Caxton Building, downtown office structure.

Joins E-L Art Staff

Marilyn Baum has been added to Eagle-Lion's home office art department headed by Bob Hadley.

Northeast FM Group Formed in Albany

Albany, N. Y., April 16. — The first branch FM association was organized for New England, New York and New Jersey at a meeting at the Ten Eyke Hotel in this city. Over 300 representatives of radio stations, radio associations and equipment manufacturers attended.

California Circuit Plans 6 New Houses

LOS ANGELES, April 16.—Edwards Theatres has given momentum to an expansion and modernization program which calls for the construction of six theatres, James Edwards, Jr., discloses.

Awaiting authorization by the Civilian Production Administration are the El Rancho in Arcadia, to cost $350,000, and the Foothill in Sunland, while the circuit has appealed to Washington to reverse the CPA's denial of permission for its contemplated Edwards Theatre in Monterey Park, to cost an estimated $250,000, and to become a first-run theatre in place of the circuit's Monterey, which would become second-run.

In addition to the purchase of a site in La Canada for the erection of a 1,200-seat theatre to be known as the Flintridge, remodeling of the Granada in Alhambra is under way. Owned by the Alhambra Amusement Co., which consists of Principal Theatres, Inc., and Edwards, the name of the house will be changed to Coronet and the theatre will reopen as a first-run.

Along with the projected extension of the 840-seat Temple Theatre in Temple City to 1,200 seats, the circuit has filed a petition with the CPA for authorization to build a second theatre there. Other modernization plans include: conversion of a bowling-alley building in Montrose into a 900-seat theatre, to be located one block from the circuit's Montrose; and rehabilitation and refurnishing of the Garvey in Garvey, Rosemead in Rosemead, and Tujunga in Tujunga.

Wisconsin Voters Kill Daylight Savings

MILWAUKEE, April 16.—A popular referendum has rejected a local-option daylight saving proposal. Although urban areas favored the plan, rural areas' opposition defeated the measure.

N.Y. Minor Law Signed

ALBANY, N. Y., April 16. — Governor Dewey has signed without comment the Finch-Mahoney bill allowing the employment of children under 16 in motion pictures, stage shows, television and radio broadcasts if a permit is issued by local education boards or designated officials. Amateur performances are exempt.

No Colorado Bills

DENVER, April 16.—Voting adjournment for April 18, the Colorado legisuature will go through the session without passing any bills directly affecting theatres. A censor bill, introduced early in the session, was buried in committee.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

The heat wave which sent the sands to the beaches brought grosses down as temperatures went up, but "The Egg and I," held over for a second week at five situations, did splendidly despite the weather. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 16:

JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $7,100)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500)

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue) and BRASHER DOUBLOON (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $18,200)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $18,100)

JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $10,500. (Average: $6,800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio) — FOX-BEVERLY (1,350) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 16th week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $12,000)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,300)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—GUILD (965) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.50-$1.80) 5th week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $5,900)

TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio) and BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $19,800)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $7,200)

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue) and THE BRASHER DOUBLOON (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $28,600)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $22,600)

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue) and THE BRASHER DOUBLOON (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $4,700)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $14,200)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $5,400)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $4,700)

JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—ORPHEUM

BY ORDER OF
U S O CAMP SHOWS, INC.
TROOPERS — ATTENTION
A-1 condition clothing ensembles for individuals. All types and sizes and occasions.
At public auction, April 28th, at 10 A.M.
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10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Thomas F. Burchill
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7 West 24th St., New York City
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(2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $18,800)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PALACE (1,237) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 12th week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $21,000)
TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio) and BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $20,800)
ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.) and THE PILGRIM LADY (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $15,000. (verage: $26,600)
ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,100)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $9,600)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $6,100)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $15,800)
ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue) and THE BRASHER DOUBLOON (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $13,200)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—VOGUE (800) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.50-$1.80) 15th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)
STALLION ROAD (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,200)
STALLION ROAD (WB) — WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $15,500)
STALLION ROAD (WB) — WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $14,900)

BOSTON

Business continued slow in the Hub, with only two houses showing better-than-average business. Excellent weather plus an Army Week show over the weekend contributed to the general seasonal slow-up. Estimated grosses for the week ending April 16:
TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show with Marion Hutton and the Three Flames. Gross: $28,000. (Avreage: $31,000)
EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.) and SHOOT TO KILL (Screen Guild)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,500)
SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I) and JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG (20th-Fox)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $27,200)
PURSUED (WB) and WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.) — METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $26,000)
IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M) and BLIND SPOT (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $25,000)
EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.) and SHOOT TO KILL (Screen Guild)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $14,900)
IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M) and BLIND SPOT (Col.)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $17,000)

SAN FRANCISCO

The mercury has hit an all-time April high here and, consequently, the beaches have lured away potential theatre customers. As a result, with a few exceptions, notably "The Best Years of Our Lives," business has been more or less hard hit. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 16-18:
THE GUILT OF JANET AMES (Col.) and BLIND SPOT (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $14,000)
STALLION ROAD (WB) and SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI (Mono.)—FOX (4,651) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $32,000)

REEVES
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TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00). With vaudeville, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $32,000)
STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I) and CIGARETTE GIRL (Col.)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,000)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—UNITED NATIONS (1,129) (Advanced prices: $1.25-$1.50) 5th week. Gross: $19,500. (Average at regular prices of 60c-85c: $6,000)
STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I) and CIGARETTE GIRL (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,608) (55c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $10,000)
THE SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK (UA)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 2nd week, 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $14,000)
ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue) and THE BRASHER DOUBLOON (20th-Fox)—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $27,000)
MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.) and BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Col.)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 3rd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $23,000)
SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (60c-85c) 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $23,000)

Bogeaus to Produce 4 Annually for UA

HOLLYWOOD, April 16. — Benedict Bogeaus, who recently sold the General Service Studio with the restriction that he could use it for future productions, today announced plans for making four pictures annually for the next five years involving an expenditure of more than $30,000,000. All will be for United Artists release. Each feature will carry a minimum budget of $1,500,000, Bogeaus said. Publicity and advertising representatives will be established in key cities under Hollywood direction, and the company will open offices in London and Paris.

Film Workers Here Vaccinated in Drive

Home office employes of Warner Brothers, Paramount and Century Theatres and employes at the Strand and Hollywood Theatres here were vaccinated against smallpox in the current campaign by the New York City Board of Health.

United Artists employes here will be given an opportunity today to have smallpox vaccinations administered at the home office, while all patrons at Brandt's Apollo Theatre today will also be offered the service. Brandt's home office staff was inoculated yesterday.

Theatre Asks Writ

ST. LOUIS, April 16.—The Robin Theatre here has asked the State Supreme Court for a writ of mandamus to compel city officials to cease interfering with the theatre's operations for alleged violation of the city's building code. The court has given the city five days to show cause why the writ should not be issued.

Circuit for Mirisch

(*Continued from page* 1)

deal to add two new offices in the West to those now maintained in Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Omaha, Los Angeles and in Brooklyn.

Mirisch expects to be on the Coast about May 1, following the opening of the Indianapolis theatre, in order to check into operations of his Los Angeles branch managed by his brother, Irving. Another brother, Marvin, in Milwaukee, supervises that city's office as well as over-all operations of the company.



MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Mar. 22	MILLIE'S DAUGHTER Gladys George Gay Nelson D—70 mins. (Rev. 2/11/47)	(March Release) BEGINNING OR THE END Brian Donlevy Robert Walker D—112 mins. (Rev. 2/19/47)	THE GUILTY Bonita Granville D—71 mins. (Rev. 3/19/47)	SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING Fred MacMurray Paulette Goddard C—87 mins. (Rev. 2/10/47)	UNTAMED FURY D—61 min. (Rev. 3/21/47) (Reissues) KIT CARSON LAST OF THE MOHICANS	HIT PARADE OF 1947 Eddie Albert Constance Moore	(Block 4) TRAIL STREET Randolph Scott Robert Ryan O—84 mins. (Rev. 2/20/47)	(March Releases) BACKLASH Richard Travis Jean Rogers D—66 mins. (Rev. 3/20/47)	(Bogeaus Prod.) THE MACOMBER AFFAIR Gregory Peck Joan Bennett D—90 mins. (Rev. 2/27/47)	(March Releases) (Reissue) DESTRY RIDES AGAIN O—93 mins. (Rev. 11/30/39) (Reissue) WHEN THE DALTONS RODE O—81 mins. (Rev. 7/30/40)	
Mar. 29	WEST OF DODGE CITY (Rev. 3/14/47) KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Rev. 3/14/47)		TRAILING DANGER Johnny M. Brown O—58 min. (676) (Rev. 3/26/47)		PHILO VANCE RETURNS William Wright Ramsey Ames	(April 1 Releases) HOMESTEADERS OF PARADISE VALLEY TWILIGHT ON The RIO GRANDE YANKEE FAKIR D—71 min. (Rev. 4/7/47)	THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE Lawrence Tierney D—62 mins. (Rev. 2/27/47) BEAT THE BAND Frances Langford M—67 mins. (Rev. 2/24/47)	ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (Reissue) M—105 mins. (Rev. 5/26/38)	(Hopalong Cassidy) UNEXPECTED GUEST William Boyd O—61 min. (Rev. 12/12/46)	SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (Color) M—196 mins. (Rev. 1/30/47) SMASH-UP Susan Hayward D—103 mins. (Rev. 2/5/47)	THAT WAY WITH WOMEN Sydney Greenstreet Martha Vickers C—85 mins. (Rev. 2/14/47)
April 5	BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—67 mins. (Rev. 2/27/47)	(April Releases) IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN Frank Sinatra Jimmy Durante C—103 mins. (Rev. 3/3/47)	SIX GUN SERENADE Jimmy Wakely	MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE Bob Hope Dorothy Lamour C—87 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)	THREE ON A TICKET Hugh Beaumont Cheryl Walker D—62 min. (Rev. 4/7/47)	BELLS OF SAN ANGELO Roy Rogers Dale Evans	CODE OF THE WEST James Warren O—57 mins. (Rev. 2/21/47) THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER Loretta Young Joseph Cotten C—97 mins. (Rev. 2/19/47)	(April Releases) THE LATE GEORGE APLEY Ronald Colman Peggy Cummins C—98 min. (Rev. 1/31/47)	(Hughes) THE SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK Harold Lloyd C—89 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)	MICHIGAN KID (Color) O—69 mins. (Rev. 2/11/47)	STALLION ROAD Ronald Reagan Alexis Smith Zachary Scott D—97 min. (Rev. 3/19/47)
April 12	(April Releases) GUILT OF JANET AMES Rosalind Russell Melvyn Douglas D—81 mins. (Rev. 3/5/47)	LITTLE MR. JIM Butch Jenkins James Craig D—94 mins. (Rev. 6/10/46)	VIOLENCE Nancy Coleman Michael O'Shea		PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE Alan Curtis Frank Jenks THE BIG FIX James Brown Noreen Nash WEST TO GLORY Eddie Dean	SPOILERS OF THE NORTH Paul Kelly Adrian Booth			(Jules Levey) NEW ORLEANS Arturo de Cordova Dorothy Patrick	(April Releases) BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME Abbott-Costello C—77 mins. (Rev. 3/10/47)	
April 19	FRAMED Glenn Ford Janis Carter Barry Sullivan D—82 mins. (Rev. 3/5/47)	THE SEA OF GRASS Spencer Tracy Katherine Hepburn D—125 mins. (Rev. 2/13/47)	HIGH CONQUEST Anna Lee Warren Douglas D—83 mins. (Rev. 3/13/47)							YOU CAN'T CHEAT AN HONEST MAN (Reissue) W. C. Fields C—73 mins. (Rev. 2/20/39)	(Reissue) THE SEA HAWK Errol Flynn Claude Rains
April 26		HARD BOILED MAHONEY Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall C—63 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)		THE IMPERFECT LADY Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—97 mins. (Rev. 3/10/47)	FRONTIER FIGHTERS RAIDERS OF RED GAP PANHANDLE TRAIL CODE OF THE PLAINS THUNDERGAP OUTLAWS SHOOTIN' IRONS					I STOLE A MILLION (Reissue) George Raft Claire Trevor D—78 mins. (Rev. 7/18/39)	(Reissue) THE SEA WOLF Edw. G. Robinson Ida Lupino
May 3	FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson	(May Release) HIGH BARBAREE Van Johnson June Allyson D—91 min. (Rev. 3/13/47)	LAND OF THE LAWLESS J. Mack Brown Raymond Hatton	BLAZE OF NOON Anne Baxter William Holden D—90 mins. (Rev. 3/4/47)					(Enterprise) RAMROD Joel McCrea Veronica Lake O—94 mins. (Rev. 2/21/47)		LOVE AND LEARN Jack Carson Robert Hutton C—85 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)
May 10		UNDERCOVER MAISIE Ann Southern Barry Nelson C—90 min. (Rev. 3/4/47)	SARGE GOES TO COLLEGE Alan Hale, Jr.		RIDERS OF RED ROCK (Eagle-Lion) RED STALLION Robert Paige Ted Donaldson		(Block 5) HONEYMOON Shirley Temple Franchot Tone TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS Johnny Weismuller O—72 min. (Rev. 3/20/47)	(May Releases) THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR Rex Harrison Gene Tierney			
May 17	BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY Ron Randell	(Reissue) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)			(Eagle-Lion) REPEAT PERFORMANCE Joan Leslie Louis Hayward		BORN TO KILL Lawrence Tierney A LIKELY STORY Barbara Hale Bill Williams	HOMESTRETCH Cornel Wilde Maureen O'Hara JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG Richard Travis Micheline Cheirel D—64 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)			
May 24	LAW OF THE CANYON Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette						BANJO Sharyn Moffett Una O'Connor				THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS Humphrey Bogart Barbara Stanwyck D—100 min. (Rev 4/1/47)
May 31	THE MILLERSON CASE Warner Baxter PRAIRIE RAIDERS Charles Starrett	THE YEARLING Gregory Peck Jane Wyman D—134 min. (717) (Rev. 11/27/46)		CALCUTTA Alan Ladd Wm. Bendix D—83 min. (Rev. 4/16/47)							

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.]

Canada Waits Word On Foundation Bid

TORONTO, April 16.—Oscar R. Hanson and Alfred W. Perry, prominent in Canadian distribution, are still awaiting a reply to their proposal that Canada be included in the Motion Picture Foundation which is being established in the U. S.

The argument is advanced that Canada is classed as a 10 per cent market in the film distribution of the United States industry and should rightly be grouped with the American organization on that sharing basis insofar as prospective benefits and responsibilities are concerned.

Hanson, who is president of the Canadian Picture Pioneers, is the head of Monogram Pictures of Canada while Perry is president of Empire-Universal-Films.

Motion Picture Foundation executives here familiar with the Canadian proposal were not available for comment yesterday.

Foundation Meet Held In Salt Lake City

SALT LAKE CITY, April 16.—A meeting here today started preliminary planning for the Motion Picture Foundation in this territory. No officers were elected, but a steering committee was formed to outline the preliminary work to be done before the next meeting, to be held in June during the exhibitors' gathering here.

It was decided to request the national heads and interim leaders to make a short sound film to explain to exhibitors and their staffs exactly what the Foundation will mean to them and what will be asked of them.

M. P. Foundation

(*Continued from page* 1)

at the Blackstone Hotel, attended by more than 100 members of the local trade.

Edward G. Zorn, Pontiac, Ill., exhibitor, and president of the United Theatre Owners of Illinois, was elected chairman of the 17-member area committee.

Louis A. Novins, assistant to Barney Balaban, Paramount president, was the keynote speaker at today's meeting. He left here for New York by plane immediately following the meeting.

20th Moving Slowly

(*Continued from page* 1)

pends upon whether the Supreme Court reverses or sustains the New York decision, he said. (Up to now, only one partnership dissolution deal has been completed by National. It involves RKO, and is reported elsewhere in this issue.)

The New York decree allows two years from Dec. 31, 1946, for the divestiture of partnership holdings. Since the Supreme Court is expected to act on the appeals early in 1948, the theatre-owning defendants would have almost a full year thereafter in which to sever their partnerships if the high court does not reverse the New York decision.

National owns 66 theatres jointly with independents, six with Paramount and one with RKO.

Increase Ads

(*Continued from page* 1)

up the amount spent to around $5,000,000, it was said. Special productions are to be made under the Charles K. Feldman banner, such as John Steinbeck's "The Red Pony," "The Shadow," and "Macbeth," as well as the contemplated life of Babe Ruth and other pictures to be produced under deals now being negotiated, Yates explained.

James R. Grainger, executive vice-president in charge of sales and distribution, presided. He stressed the promise of increased expenditures in national advertising and exploitation.

Yates reported that $250,000 will be spent on each of 10 deluxe pictures that the company has slated on its 1947-48 production schedule (these pictures do not include the "specials" mentioned above). Also $900,000 will be spent on special Roy Rogers' promotion, and $600,000 will be spent to promote Republic's own color process, Trucolor. The studio intends to put special emphasis on this latter appropriation for Trucolor, to carry out Yate's contention that it will not be long before the great majority of pictures will be filmed in color.

Ascap Inaugurates

(*Continued from page* 1)

kind, was held yesterday with Herman Levy, general counsel of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, who had previously voiced opposition to the Ascap move for an increase in rates. Paine and Richard Murray, Ascap officials in charge of the rate increase program, declined to comment on their meeting with Levy, describing it as a "social get-together," primarily for the purpose of introducing themselves to Levy, whom they said they had not met previously.

Levy could not be reached for comment following the meeting.

Indications are that the Ascap officials will seek a meeting with representatives of Allied States, American Theatres Association and other exhibitor organizations, as well as the MPTOA, before making any announcement of the scale of increases in theatre music taxes which they may have in mind. Abram F. Myers, chairman and general counsel of Allied States, already has expressed opposition to the proposed increase.

U.S. Approves

(*Continued from page* 1)

open-air theatre on the grounds it would not interfere with housing.

Nine were approved on the basis of veterans' ownership: Thomas C. Riddles, Palm City, Cal.; W. Lee Austin, Arvin, Cal.; Robert H. Perkins, Woodbine, Ky.; Keith A. Falcon, Zachary, La.; Leslie M. Kessler, Oakland, Cal.; Howard A. Andersona and John H. Holliday, Pamplico, S. C.; Weldon G. Girard, San Diego, Cal.; Walter K. Kahler, Butler, Mo.; Robtrt M. Rockoff, Delton, Wisc.

RKO, National

(*Continued from page* 1)

ment, National will relinquish its entire interest in the Main Street, which then will be wholly-owned by RKO. In exchange therefor RKO will deed over to National the 2,500-seat RKO Orpheum in the same city.

Expect Relaxation On Drive-In Ban

WASHINGTON, April 16.—A relaxation in restrictions on construction of drive-in theatres is being considered by the Office of the Housing Expediter.

One official said a decision affecting drive-ins and other types of commercial construction which do not use many housing materials would be made within the next two weeks. He added the relaxation might take the form of a blanket exemption for all projects meeting certain qualifications or relaxation in the standards the projects must meet to be approved by the Government.

Cinecolor Starting Addition

BURBANK, April 16. — Cinecolor, Inc., today announced the start of construction this week on additions to its plant here at a cost of $80,000.

U.S. Films Lead in Guiana

WASHINGTON, April 16. — Practically all films currently shown in British Guiana are American films, according to the U. S. Commerce Department here. A local ordinance requires that 10 per cent of films shown in each theatre must be British, but under existing conditions, the Department reports, this regulation is not being observed.

UJA Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

luncheon at the Hotel Astor. About 50 leaders, headed by Matthew Fox, Billy Rose, Richard Rodgers and Emil Friedlander, co-chairmen for Metropolitan New York, will attend. Included will be:

Robert Benjamin, Harry Brandt, Jack Cohn, Max A. Cohen, George Dembow, Si Fabian, Leopold Friedman, Leonard Goldenson, Marcus Heiman, Arthur Israel, Jr., Ben Kalmenson, Harry Kalmine, Malcolm Kingsberg, Meyer Lavenstein, Harry Michaelson, Dan Michalove, W. C. Michel, Charles Moskowitz, Louis A. Novins and Eugene Picker.

Also: Sam Rinzler, Sam Rosen, Abe Schneider, Samuel Schneider, A. W. Schwalberg, Adolph Schimel, Fred J. Schwartz, Sol Schwartz, Sam Shain, Nate B. Spingold, J. J. Unger, Dr. Isidor Lubin, Major Albert Warner and Peter Colwin, national trade director of the UJA; Maurice Firth, trade secretary of the New York division, and Philip Chasin of the Joint Defense Appeal.

Fitzgibbons to Be at Toronto UJA Dinner

TORONTO, April 16.—J. J. Fitzgibbons, chairman of the Canadian National Services Committee of the film industry, will be a guest at a dinner of the Canadian film division of the United Jewish Appeal on April 23. Joint chairmen of the Canadian division, which will launch its campaign at the dinner to be held at the King Edward Hotel here, are Ray Allen of Premier Theatres and Harry S. Mandell of 20th-Century Theatres, Toronto.

Barney Balaban, national chairman of the film division of the United Jewish Appeal, will speak during a special broadcast of "Tomorrow the Harvest," featuring Gregory Peck, to be aired by WOR tonight.



there are 11,359 cities
in the United States but
there's only one

NEW ORLEANS



and it's coming your way from UA

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 76 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 1947 TEN CENTS

MPA Bolsters Children's Film Program

Sets 3-Month Drive to Double Gains to Date

The Motion Picture Association is about to launch a full-scale promotional campaign in behalf of its "Children's Film Library," with a view toward more than doubling within the next three months the number of theatres which now subscribe, some 1,047, which have used 6,000 programs. This was announced here yesterday at a trade press conference at the Harvard Club, by Arthur De Bra, director of the MPA community relations department. In three months, De Bra said, the library will be able to offer exhibitors 52 films, all of which will have been reviewed both by children's and parent's groups and approved by them. At present the library contains some 30 titles.

The Association will give the pro-

(*Continued on page 7*)

House Passes Bill To Bar Closed Shop

WASHINGTON, April 17. — The House today passed a sweeping union control bill which would ban the closed shop and industry-wide bargaining and would outlaw jurisdictional strikes, secondary boycotts and mass picketings.

At the same time, the Senate Labor Committee reported a slightly weaker bill. This measure, scheduled for debate next week, bans the closed shop but does not impose any restriction on industry-wide bargaining, and only makes jurisdictional strikes and secondary boycotts unfair labor practices.

Ansell, Wehrenberg Head St. Louis MPF

ST. LOUIS, April 17.—Joseph C. Ansell has been elected chairman of the St. Louis committee of the Motion Picture Foundation. At a meeting held in the offices of Harry Arthur Jr., of Fanchon and Marco, Fred Wehrenberg, president of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, and Albert Stetson were named trustee and

(*Continued on page 7*)

Randel Steps Up at Para.

Henry Randel has been promoted from Paramount branch manager in New York to district manager in this area, a post left vacant since March 2, 1945, when Milton Kusell left the company to join David O. Selznick. Randel has been replaced as branch manager by Myron Sattler, who heretofore was New York sales manager. Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution, announced the promotions here yesterday.



Henry Randel

Randel has been with Paramount

(*Continued on page 6*)

M. Wolf Gets MGM Home Office Spot

BOSTON, April 17.—Maurice N. Wolf, local M-G-M district manager, has been promoted to a special executive post in the home-office exhibitor and public relations department, ef-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Disaster Newsreels On Screens Today

The newsreels companies will bring to New York screens this afternoon a pictorial account of the Texas City disaster. It will be the first newsreel special since the war. By Saturday morning, all the nation's theatres are expected to have the films.

Upon news of the tragedy, newsreel headquarters dispatched crews to the scene by plane. The U. S. Government placed at the disposal of the companies an Army plane which flew South from Washington. Free-lance cameramen were at the scene almost immediately, on assignments from the reels.

Cite New NY Tax Hazards

ALBANY, N. Y., April 17.—A New York exhibition delegation appearing before the State Tax Commission today cited the extent to which additional theatre taxation has impaired business in Richmond, Va., and Norfolk, Va., as evidence of the detrimental effect which more threatening New York levies will bring. The Commission is conducting hearings

(*Continued on page 6*)

UA Considers Simultaneous Run Licensing

This Is Seen as Alternate To Competitive Bidding

A policy of non-exclusive runs in competitive areas where theatremen insist on a priority of run is understood to be considered by United Artists to replace competitive building.

While, actually, whether bidding is legally unnecessary since the U. S. Supreme Court order postponed operation of many phases of the New York Federal Court's decree is questionable, it is felt by some companies, including Loew's, to be the best way of averting civil suits in cases where exhibitors fail to agree on product splits or other arrangements but offer equal terms for a run.

The UA plan would be to license runs simultaneously in situations where no other agreement can be reached among licensees. This, the company reportedly feels, would be in keeping with the terms of the New York decision.

UA Board Approves New Roach Deal

The United Artists board, at a meeting here yesterday, approved a new deal for the distribution of six "streamlined" comedy features by Hal Roach, four of which already are completed. The four finished films are: "Curley," "Fabulous Joe," "Here Comes Trouble" and "Who Killed Doc Robbin?"

The meeting did not concern itself with various pending matters relative to reorganization.

E-L Forming Unit For Latin America

Eagle-Lion's initial venture to set up a Latin-American distribution organization will be launched late this month when Sam L. Seidelman, head of foreign operations, will arrive in Mexico

(*Continued on page 6*)

N. Y. Group First to Meet On Joint Collections

MPA Directors Will Meet Here on May 8

May 8 has been set as the date for the next board meeting of the Motion Picture Association, it was disclosed here yesterday prior to president Eric A. Johnston's departure for Spokane.

The agenda includes the addition of a by-law giving member companies two votes instead of one. Jack Cohn, Columbia executive vice-president, now exercises that company's vote while in all other companies the presidents have the vote.

The promotion of a Metropolitan New York "Health Week" during which the 700-odd theatres in the area would pass collection baskets for all charitable and disease-fighting organizations here will be taken up at the next board meeting of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association either next Tuesday or Wednesday. This, it is believed, would be the first such joint collection by exhibition.

The idea of a joint collection was advanced last year for the entire country and was approved by the three national theatre groups, including Allied States, American Theatres Association and Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America. This, however, was abandoned when both the March of Dimes and the American Red Cross expressed unwillingness to participate

(*Continued on page 6*)

In This Issue

"The Homestretch" is reviewed on page 7.

Key city grosses are given on page 5.

Personal Mention

NATE BLUMBERG, president of Universal, and MRS. BLUMBERG, will return to New York from Hollywood next mid-week.

•

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal-International's Eastern advertising-publicity director, will leave New York by plane for Hollywood tomorrow for studio conferences with JOHN JOSEPH, national director of advertising-publicity. BERGMAN will return here on Wednesday.

•

JOSEPH SEIDELMAN, president of Universal International, and ALFRED E. DAFF, vice-president, are due to return to New York from London at the end of the month.

•

EDWARD ARNOLD, M-G-M star, has been invited by U. S. Attorney-General TOM CLARK to serve on the American Citizenship Committee.

•

STANLEY SHUFORD, advertising manager of Paramount, is back at his desk following confinement at home for a severe cold.

•

LOUIS DE ROCHEMONT, producer, was cited yesterday for achievement in the cultural arts by the American Design Awards.

•

RUDY BERGER, Southern M-G-M sales manager, will return to New Orleans on Monday from a Miami vacation.

•

ALBERT DEANE, Paramount International's censorship-editing manager, will return to New York today from a trip to Australia.

•

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount's Western division sales manager, returned to the Coast from New York yesterday.

•

ERNEST ROYLS, chief sound engineer for Warner Brothers in England, has arrived in New York from London.

•

BOB ARMSTRONG, M-G-M studio publicist, has returned to Hollywood from New York by plane.

•

HARRY A. SAMWICK, president of American Display Co., has returned to New York from Florida.

•

SILAS F. SEADLER, M-G-M advertising director, will return to New York from the Coast on Monday.

•

WILLIAM LYON of M-G-M's studio staff, will arrive here on Monday from the Coast.

•

PAUL PHILLIPS has acquired from C. H. EVANSON the Soldier Theatre, Soldier, Ia.

•

TED WICK, radio promotion director for the Selznick Releasing Organization, is here from the Coast.

•

DR. HERBERT T. KALMUS, president of Technicolor Corp., is expected to arrive here Monday from the Coast.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

ABRAM F. MYERS is telling his Allied constituents that distributors have repudiated the competitive bidding system which the court offered as a substitute for theatre divorcement. This leads him to this conclusion: "If they continue to use the method then it will be without color of authority under the decree. The distributors will be strictly on their own."

Fred Wehrenberg is telling his MPTOA members something quite different: "I ask you not to be confused. [Competitive bidding] was found to be legal by the New York court and is, therefore, legal unless and until the Supreme Court, if it passes on the question, holds it to be illegal. The distributors are, therefore, perfectly within their rights to employ it unless it is declared illegal. The stay, in substance, means only that the distributors are not *compelled* to employ it, but they may, if they wish to; and, if the Supreme Court does not declare it to be illegal, they may continue to use it as a method of licensing their features.

"These distinctions are important to keep in mind. *Remember that any stay granted as to competitive bidding merely removes the immediate compulsion of licensing features that way.*"

The italics are Wehrenberg's.

■

In seeking a stay, including that on bidding—a move initiated by the "Little Three" and embraced latterly by the others—except 20th Century-Fox—distributors asked for relief pending the Supreme' Court's final word. We fail to see how this constitutes the repudiation which Myers finds. We also speculate why he seizes upon such a twist.

Wehrenberg is much closer to the situation, as comment from both men demonstrates. Distributors do not have to sell competitively, but they may if they so choose. And that brings us to a question of our own, which is:

Does anyone know any distributor who doesn't like to peddle that way?"

■ ■

Maurice Bergman, Eastern advertising manager of Universal, once spent a year in rabbinical college in Cincinnati. At that time, Jerry Berns, one of the factotums at "21," was a film critic on a newspaper there.

Years pass, as they say. Bergman became a fixture in New York and Berns a fixture at the West 52nd St. eating emporium. Bergman goes there frequently on his own and on behalf of visiting Universal personalities such as Eddie Albert, who was target of a cocktail party yesterday. "Good afternoon, Doctor Bergman," was how the captains greeted him. They always do.

This slight case of history explains why.

■ ■

Joe Skeptic, who gets around, overheard this from a paying customer at the Broadway: "That prize-winning cartoon of Metro's, 'The Cat Concerto', has more sustained laughs in its mittful of minutes than 'Monsieur Verdoux'."

Skeptic adds: "But maybe the Chaplin film was not intended to be a comedy."

■ ■

Nat Liebeskind, former general manager for RKO Radio in South America and latterly an exhibitor in the Argentine, contemplates production. How he figures it:

"I sold 'em for 25 years. I showed 'em for five. Now I think I can make 'em."

■ ■

UA producers in New York include Mary Pickford, Charles Chaplin, Hunt Stromberg, Charlie Einfeld, Dave Loew, Ben Bogeaus and Eddie Golden.

"More producers here than in California," observes a UA executive, not without a sigh.

■ ■

Herman M. Levy, general counsel of MPTOA, is also executive secretary of National Wholesale Frozen Food Distributors, Inc. The inevitable crack: "You won't find me keeping all my frozen eggs in one basket!"

■ ■

To Paul Lazarus, Jr.: "How do you bear up under the strain?"

Rejoinder: "Simple. I sleep in a straightjacket."

CHARLES CHAPLIN
IN
"MONSIEUR VERDOUX"
A Motion Picture that will STARTLE you!
Released thru United Artists
BROADWAY THEATRE B'way at 53rd

Irving Berlin's
Alexander's Ragtime Band
20th Century-Fox
TYRONE POWER - ALICE FAYE
DON AMECHE - ETHEL MERMAN
In Person
LECUONA CUBAN ORCHESTRA
3 SWIFTS - DEL RIOS - LARRY DANIELS
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NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
RONALD COLMAN in
'THE LATE GEORGE APLEY'
Introducing PEGGY CUMMINS
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATI

FRANK BORZAGE'S
fast moving drama of love and excitement
"THAT'S MY MAN"
Starring
Don AMECHE • Catherine McLEOD
with
Roscoe KARNS Kitty IRISH
John RIDGELY Joe FRISCO
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Brandt's GLOBE B'WAY & 46th ST.

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
TRAIL STREET
starring Randolph SCOTT • Robert RYAN
Anne JEFFREYS • George "Gabby" HAYES
RKO RADIO PICTURES

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
'CALIFORNIA'
In TECHNICOLOR
RAY MILLAND
BARBARA STANWYCK
BARRY FITZGERALD
IN PERSON
Joe BESSER
Bobby BREEN
ARREN & BRODERICK

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTEN • ETHEL BARRYMORE
in
The Farmer's Daughter
An RKO Radio Picture
A DORE SCHARY Production
RIVOLI
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.
B'way at 49th St.

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

BOB HOPE
DOROTHY LAMOUR
in PARAMOUNT'S
My Favorite Brunette
with PETER LORRE LON CHANEY
in Person!
JIMMY DORSEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PAT HENNING
LOUIS JORDAN AND HIS TYMPANY FIVE
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

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HAIL THE YEAR'S GREATEST PICTURE!

"Movie of the week!" — **LIFE** . . . "Rush down to get a seat!" — **N. Y. TIMES**
"Kerr rhymes with Star!" — **TIME** . . . "Superb performance!" — **DAILY MIRROR**
"Don't miss 'The Adventuress!'" — **JOURNAL-AMERICAN** . . . "Gives the heart something to throb about!" — **WALTER WINCHELL** . . . "Best film released for Easter!" — **WORLD-TELEGRAM**

DEBORAH KERR

"the ADVENTURESS"

a J. ARTHUR RANK production · an EAGLE-LION FILMS release



"Kerr captivating!" — **MORNING TELEGRAPH** . . . "Kerr is velvet!" — **P M**
"May well be performance which took her to Hollywood and co-starring part with Gable in 'The Hucksters!'" — **DAILY NEWS** . . . "Gable's new partner charming!" — **WORLD-TELEGRAM** . . . "'The Adventuress' has lovely Deborah Kerr!" — **WALTER WINCHELL** . . . "No wonder they snatched her for 'The Hucksters!'" — **POST** . . . "Kerr dominant!" — **HERALD-TRIBUNE**

NOW SETTING BOX-OFFICE RECORDS AT NEW YORK'S VICTORIA THEATRE

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES P. CUNNINGHAM

MUCH has been written, both here and abroad, concerning the fantastically fabulous financial fortunes of the commercial empire of Britain's J. Arthur Rank, estimated to be worth some $200,000,000 in the British cinema field alone, with its 11 finance holding corporations, 13 studio, laboratory and production companies, 15 distribution companies, 16 theatre corporations, 23 companies covering equipment, 16mm films, and what not, to say nothing of outside interests, ranging all the way from flour mills in Minnesota, USA, to a little side-pocket outfit in London which tells British producers what tomorrow's weather will be.

All of this vast $200,000,000 combine, and more, too, is controlled by Rank through his personal company, Manorfield Investments, Ltd.—capitalized at $400!!!

▽

Tucked away neatly in Boston newspapers, close to banner headlines screaming about the unrest in the universe, much of it created by exasperating attitudes of the Soviet's Stalin and his mate, Molotov, is an account of a two-way interview with film-director Serge Eisenstein, in Moscow, and the Boston press, promoted by the Kenmore Theatre in the latter city for the Eisenstein film, "Ivan the Terrible." And during which, Eisenstein told about his seeing the very latest Hollywood motion pictures at the American Embassy in Moscow. Best film of all, he said, was: "It's a Wonderful Life"!

▽

Precisely at noon on the ninth day of the strike of the long lines telephone operators, and the consequent suspension of all but vital long distance telephoning, the switchboard gal in MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S *Hollywood office answered an incoming call and heard a voice say: "This is McKeesport, Pennsylvania, operator, can you give me Gene Autry's home address?"*

She got it, said "Thanks," and the long distance strike went merrily along.

▽

The late Langley Collyer, Hermit of Harlem, had a desire to see "The Jolson Story," but indicated to a friend that he feared venturing forth from the dungeon of debris which housed him. The friend passed word of Collyer's desire along to Columbia Pictures, distributor of the production, telling how Collyer had heard Jolson's songs over his radio, and nostalgically remembered the music from his more youthful days.

Columbia arranged for Collyer to see the picture, assured him he would see it unseen, and received a thank-you note of acceptance from the old recluse. Representatives of the company looked for him daily, until the police started to look for him, too, in his den of dirt, where they finally found him, decayed in death.

▽

Lyricist Lew Lehr lilts with the lute like this: *"No matter how grouchy you're feeling, you'll find the smile more or less healing; it grows in a wreath, all around the front teeth, thus preserving the face from congealing."*

Aleman Named by Mexico City Club

Mexico City, April 17. — President Miguel Aleman has been made honorary president of the recently formed Mexican chapter of Variety Club. He accepted during a special interview in his offices with executives of the club who included Luis R. Montes, president of the Mexican Motion Picture Exhibitors Association; Max Gomez, RKO Radio general manager in Mexico; Juevanl Urbina, United Artists manager in this country; Arcady Boytler, producer-director-exhibitor, Cesar Santos Galindo and Roberto Cervantes.

Radio's Peabody Awards Presented

The George Foster Peabody Awards, radio's equivalent of the film industry's Academy Awards, were presented here yesterday at ceremonies at the Hotel Roosevelt. Programs and personalities honored were:

WOW's (Omaha) program series, "Operation Big Muddy"; "The Harbor We Seek" program of WSB, Atlanta; "Our Town," continuity of WELL, Battle Creek, Mich.; "Radio Edition of the Weekly Press," WHCU, Ithaca, N. Y.

William L. Shirer and Columbia Broadcasting, for "outstanding reporting and interpretation of the news"; "Meet the Press," Mutual Broadcasting; "Columbia Workshop," Columbia Broadcasting; "Suspense," CBS, and the "Henry Morgan Show," American Broadcasting; "Orchestras of the Nation," National Broadcasting, and "Invitation to Music," CBS; "One World or None," WMCA series; "Hiroshima," ABC, and John Crosby, New York *Herald-Tribune* radio columnist, for "outstanding contributions to broadcasting."

Rank Buys Interest In Jamaica Circuit

The J. Arthur Rank Organization of London, which has been negotiating for the Palace Amusement Co., operator of a majority of theatres in Jamaica, British West Indies, was reported yesterday to have concluded a deal for the purchase of a 51 per cent interest in the circuit, according to press dispatches reaching here from Jamaica.

Representatives of Rank in New York said that while they knew of the negotiations no information has reached them on the signing of an agreement.

Creditors of Grand National To Meet

A final meeting of creditors of Grand National Pictures will be held at the office of Peter B. Olney, referee in bankruptcy, at his office in the U. S. Court House, here, on April 28. Harry G. Fromberg, Grand National trustee, has filed a verified final report and account, along with petitions of his attorneys, accountants and appraisers for compensation for their services and disbursements.

O'Dwyer Trip Stays City Production Aid

With New York City's mayor, William O'Dwyer, on his way for several weeks of rest in California, developments indicate that no definitive action will be resolved for at least a month on the simplification of procedure for film companies seeking to undertake location-shooting in New York. Mayor O'Dwyer, upon whom depends any concrete move for eliminating confusion and red tape attending attempts to secure city permits, will return here around May 1.

Meanwhile, the city commissioner of commerce, George Sanders, will probably call another meeting of IATSE and company representatives next week to draw final plans to be submitted to the mayor. Tentative proposals previously advanced by the committee include the creation of a special board or a coordinator to speed up the process of getting permits to shoot in particular areas here.

Sanders said yesterday that he had not yet spoken to the mayor about the suggestions, offered to date, but that he would confer with him upon his return. Participating in the discussions, which began several weeks ago, were Tom Murtha and Sol Scoppa, of IATSE, both of whom were instrumental in bringing the permit difficulties to the attention of the city; Judge McGuire, municipal labor conciliator; Steve Fitzgibbons, 20th Century-Fox, and Harold Lewis, RKO Pathe Studios.

Hughes in Motion to Reargue on 'Outlaw'

Counsel for Howard Hughes, producer of "The Outlaw," yesterday asked the New York Supreme Court for permission to reargue his motion for dismissal of defenses submitted by New York City license commissioner Benjamin Fielding and police commissioner Arthur Wallander in their action which barred exhibition of the controversial film in the city.

The hearing on the motion for reargument is set for April 24 at which time Charles Poletti, counsel for Hughes, is expected to present the Hughes case. Poletti is said to be on his way back to New York from Europe.

Blumenthal Heads Cinecolor Board

A. Pam Blumenthal has resigned from the board of Enterprise Productions, Inc., to become chairman of the board of Cinecolor Corp.

The New York and Los Angeles financier said that he will retain his personal stock interest in Enterprise.

Blumenthal belongs to the New York Stock Exchange and is a partner in A. W. Morris and Co., New York and Los Angeles Brokerage firm.

Paramount Club Meets

Capt. Sam Harris, of the Army's prosecution staff at the Nuremberg war trials, last night spoke on hitherto undisclosed material about the Nazi defendants, at the second of a series of "for men only" parties sponsored by the Paramount Pictures Club. Austin C. Keough, Paramount vice-president, was honorary chairman of the meeting and William J. Healy, his assistant, was master of ceremonies.

Coming Events

April 21-22—North Central Allied Convention, Minneapolis.

April 21—Edward M. Fay industry testimonial dinner, sponsored by the Independent Theatre Owners of Rhode Island, Hotel Sheraton-Biltmore, Providence.

April 21—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, Albany.

April 21—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, at a special North Central Allied luncheon, Minneapolis.

April 21-25—Society of Motion Picture Engineers' 61st semi-annual convention, Drake Hotel, Chicago.

April, third week—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, Pittsburgh.

April 23—Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' 30th anniversary dinner dance, Hotel Astor, New York.

April 25-26—National Theatre Supply Co. district meeting, Hotel Statler, Cleveland.

April 28—M-G-M sales meeting of division, district and branch managers and bookers, Hotel Astor, New York.

April 28—Variety Club of Illinois testimonial dinner for retiring Mayor and Mrs. Edward J. Kelley, Continental Hotel, Chicago.

April 29 — Eastman-Kodak annual stockholders meeting, Flemington, N. J.

May 5-6—Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska meeting, Omaha.

May 5—Testimonial to Sidney E. Samuelson, general manager, Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania, Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia.

May 5—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting, Omaha.

May 5-8—Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Exhibitors, Los Angeles.

Defer St. Louis Tax On Film Admissions

ST. LOUIS, April 17.—The proposed five per cent municipal tax on local theatre admissions has been postponed again as Mayor Kaufmann deferred all new tax proposals until the Citizens' Tax Commission recommendations have been completed and revenue estimates are available.

The admission tax proposal legally died with the last session of the aldermen. It and other tax measures are being pushed because of a predicted $5,000,000 deficit in city revenue.

NAB Names Biggar

WASHINGTON, April 17.—George C. Biggar has been appointed to the special standards practice committee of the National Association of Broadcasters.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

OMAHA

Three or four first-runs did average business, or better, even though ideal spring weather over the weekend dented receipts some. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 16-17:

A SCANDAL IN PARIS (UA) and THE BOWERY (20th-Fox reissue)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,400)
ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) and WIFE WANTED (Mono.)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $9,100. (Average: $9,300)
LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,600)
THE LOCKET (RKO Radio) and BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,200) (50c-65c). Gross: $8,200. (Average: $6,800)

INDIANAPOLIS

First-run grosses are spotty here this week. "The Egg and I," however, in its second week at Keith's, still is the top money film. Frequent spring rains have been a factor in holding down business elsewhere. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 15-18:

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio) and SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI (Mono.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000)
IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (RKO Radio)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,200)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $6,500)
THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,800)
LADIES' MAN (Para.) and BIG TOWN (Para.)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,700)

MINNEAPOLIS

Loop theatre business held at an average pace as the weather improved. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 17:

I'LL BE YOURS (U-I)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,300)
THE BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS (WB)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,400)
THE RAZOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 4th week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,600)
THE LOCKET (RKO Radio)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,500)
MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,000)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RKO PAN (1,500) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.50) 5th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average at regular admission prices of 50c-70c: $8,500)
STALLION ROAD (WB)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,000)

Albee Resumes Shows

CINCINNATI, Aprl 17.—The 3,300-seat RKO Albee, which reverted to a straight picture policy a few weeks ago, has resumed stage shows and pictures, opening with Guy Lombardo and his Royal Canadians.

Fox Inter-Mountain Meets on Premiere

CHEYENNE, April 17.—Ray Davis, Northern district manager of Fox Inter-Mountain Theatres, has returned to Denver after holding a weekend meeting here in connection with the local world premiere and the Rocky Mountain Empire preview of "Cheyenne" late next month.

The meeting was attended by Jack McGee, city manager; Pete Faust, manager of the Lincoln Theater, where the premiere will take place; Charles Wallace, manager of the Paramount; Don Campbell, manager of the Princess, and Abe Kronenberg and Dick Stephens of Warner's exploitation staff assigned by Mort Blumenstock to work on the 100 previews to be held in this territory following the Cheyenne opening on May 22.

New Clearance Case To Boston Board

A new arbitration complaint in which the Elmwood Amusement Co., which owns and operates the Jamestown Theatre in Jamestown, R. I., seeks day-and-date availability on 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, Warner, RKO Radio and M-G-M product, has been filed with the industry's arbitration board in Boston.

The complainant seeks a board finding that the theatre be permitted to play on a national release date because Jamestown is an island accessible by "infrequent and unreliable" ferry service and by a toll bridge which, according to the Elmwood Amusement Co., is very costly.

New Fabian-Hellman Drive-In Under Way

ALBANY, N. Y., April 17.—Construction of a $75,000 Fabian-Hellman drive-in has started in a suburb, general manager Neil Hellman announced. Fabian-Hellman built two drive-ins last year, the Mohawk on the Albany-Schenectady road, and the Tri-City in Binghamton.

Mason-Rose Case Shifted

Proceedings for a declaratory judgment instituted early in March by James Mason, British actor, against David Rose, producer, has been transferred from the New York Supreme Court to the New York Federal Court, following a petition for a transfer, as filed by Rose's attorneys. Mason is seeking judicial interpretation of whether allegedly incompleted negotiations with Rose constitute a contract which commits the British actor to produce and appear in pictures in partnership with Rose.

New Television Lens

National Broadcasting has demonstrated here a new variable focal length lens for television. Dr. Frank Back developed the "Zoomar" lens, which provides for both long and close shots of subjects without moving a camera.

$1,498,151 CBS Net

Columbia Broadcasting reported a net income of $1,498,151 for the 13 weeks ending March 29, compared to $1,462,229 for the same period last year. Earnings per share amounted to 87 cents, a two-cent increase over 1946.



Albert Prod. Enters Educational Field

After two years devoted to preparing groundwork through the production of 16mm. commercial films, Eddie Albert Productions has embarked on a full-scale program to produce visual education films angled to specific groups and plans ultimately to reach mass audiences, Eddie Albert, Universal-International star, disclosed last evening at a press reception here. Two six-reel series, one a social relations subject entitled "Understanding Ourselves," and the other on racial tolerance for the instruction of police, have been produced through endowments. Albert revealed that the Rosenwald and Columbia University foundations have given financial support to the latter.

With about nine different types now completed, the company is currently shooting two on the Coast and three in Chicago, and has six more scheduled to go before the cameras shortly, he added. Remy Hudson is president of the organization, and Jack Fletcher is head of the education department.

Astrin Joins PRC

Neil Astrin has been named manager of the playdate department at Producers Releasing's home office, by Ralph H. Clark, general sales manager. Astrin, who joined PRC last year as a member of the playdate-contract department, was for many years before with Warner's playdate division.

New Philadelphia Video Association

PHILADELPHIA, April 17. — The Television Association of Philadelphia has been organized here in order to stimulate interest in television and to develop new television ideas. Kenneth Stowman, station WFIL, is the first chairman.

The organization meeting was held this week in conjunction with a luncheon of the Electrical Association of Philadelphia. It was attended by a large number of persons professionally interested in television.

Theatre Guild Expands

The Theatre Guild has established permanent West Coast offices in Los Angeles, with Queenie Smith as the Hollywood talent representative. Miss Smith, former musical comedy star, has been assisting Theresa Helburn and Lawrence Langner, Guild directors here, for the past year.

Walsh Named to Board

Richard F. Walsh, IATSE international president, was elected to the board of directors of the Union Labor Life Insurance Co. at the annual stockholders' meeting in the Lord Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore. IATSE vice-president James J. Brennan represented the "IA" at the meeting.

'Lives' in Albany

ALBANY, N. Y., April 17. — Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" will open at the Fabian Theatre here on May 2. Prices will be raised from 40 and 50 cents to 76 cents and $1.20, with no reserved seats.

AN OUTSTANDING INDUSTRY EVENT!

ASSOCIATED MOTION PICTURE ADVERTISERS

30TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER-DANCE

HOTEL ASTOR

MAIN BALLROOM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

7 P. M. SHARP

RUTGERS NEILSON, President, Will Preside

HOWARD DIETZ, Member-Guest Emcee.

This gala affair will honor the Presidents of our Industry who will be present for the occasion as well as glamorous Hollywood personalities

ADMISSION - - TEN DOLLARS PER PERSON

(For tickets write or phone HARRY McWILLIAMS, Columbia Pictures, CI. 5-5000)

Dress Optional

Coast Labor Talks Delayed One Day

HOLLYWOOD, April 17.—The producers' meeting with International representative Joseph C. Cambiano, originally set for Monday, will be postponed to Tuesday at the request of Cambiano, who telephoned acceptance of the producers' proposal for a meeting, which was telegraphed yesterday. The meeting is generally regarded as likely to lead ultimately to settlement of the strike, although all principals decline to predict the outcome.

HOLLYWOOD, April 17.—In the most drastic legal action taken against the strikers found guilty of violating a city ordinance and disturbing the peace in mass picketing of the Columbia Studio last November 16, Superior Judge Byron Walters today sentenced four ringleaders to a year in jail, another to six months, another to 90 days and a $400 fine, four others to 30 days and $400, and fined 28 others amounts ranging from $300 to $350. The sentences followed a jury trial.

Video Conference Topic

CINCINNATI, April 17. — Television will be the topic of the spring Technical conference of the Institute of Radio Engineers to be held here on Saturday, May 3.

Maurice Wolf

(*Continued from page* 1)

fective May 1. Benn H. Rosenwald, former Charlotte branch manager, who has been appointed to the managership here, was introduced at an exhibitors' luncheon at the Copley Plaza, where the announcement of Wolf's promotion was made.

John P. Byrne, Eastern sales manager, told the gathering that the Boston exchange will now be included in Herman Ripps' district, which up to now covered Albany, New Haven and Buffalo. Other M-G-M officials said that Wolf's appointment bore out vice-president William F. Rodgers' recent statements on the new importance of exhibitor and public relations.

Randel Steps Up

(*Continued from page* 1)

for 27 years, beginning as a salesman in Washington and subsequently shifting to Charlotte, Buffalo and New York, in the same capacity. He became New York branch manager in July, 1941, when the New York, Brooklyn and New Jersey exchanges were consolidated.

Sattler joined Paramount as New York booker in Feb., 1928, became a salesman one year later and in July, 1941, stepped up to the New York sales manager's post.

Joint Collections

(*Continued from page* 1)

because both saw the loss of their individual status.

Although both groups are expected to hold fast to the same position, the New York exhibitor association will consider the joint campaign in behalf of other causes such as the American Heart Foundation and the Cancer Society as well as other organizations administering to the sick.

Swedish Group Here For Import Talks

WASHINGTON, April 17.—A Swedish trade delegation has arrived here to discuss the application of the recently imposed Swedish import restrictions in the light of the U. S.-Swedish reciprocal trade agreement of 1935.

Sent over at the suggestion of the Swedish government, the delegates are expected to start discussions with U. S. State Department officials tomorrow.

Projection Booth Bill Is Signed by Dewey

ALBANY, N. Y., April 17.—Gov. Dewey has signed the Condon bill to raise standards of public safety in projection booths. The new law is now an amendment of the state's general business code and will be enforced by the State Labor Department.

Cheyfitz Book Published

"Constructive Collective Bargaining," a book written by Edward T. Cheyfitz, assistant to Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, is now in circulation, published by McGraw-Hill Book Co. in the McGraw-Hill industrial organization and management series.

Cite Tax Hazards

(*Continued from page* 1)

here preliminary to fashioning "model legislation" for the benefit of large cities and counties in the state which are now authorized to impose a new five per cent tax on admissions.

Robert W. Coyne, executive director of the American Theatres Association; Fred Schwartz, head of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, and Charles Smakwitz, Warner Theatres zone manager in Albany, told the board that a five per cent emergency tax imposed Jan. 1, 1947, in Richmond, resulted in a 12 per cent decrease in admissions. Additionally, they said, a 10 per cent increase in Norfolk taxation reduced admissions by 25 per cent.

The conference concluded with an agreement under which the theatremen will provide Tax Commission President A. B. Chapman with further pertinent facts and figures.

E-L Setting Unit

(*Continued from page* 1)

City for conferences with Arthur B. Krim, Eagle-Lion president, and Robert S. Benjamin, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization.

Included among the first films which the new setup will send to Latin America are: "Red Stallion," "Lost Honeymoon," with Franchot Tone; "Repeat Performance," with Louis Hayward; "Out of the Blue," with George Brent and Virgina Mayo, and "Love from a Stranger," Sylvia Sidney and John Hodiak. Also, the British-made "Bedelia," with Margaret Lockwood; "The Adventuress," with Deborah Kerr; "Green for Danger," "Caravan," and others. While in Mexico, the three executives will observe production of Eagle-Lion's "Captain Casanova," which is being shot on location there.

Eagle-Lion offices in Latin America will also handle distribution of Producers Releasing Corporation productions.

Production on Coast Static, 39 Shooting

HOLLYWOOD, April 17.—Production is static, with the number of pictures in work continuing to total 39; six will be completed and six others started. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "Destiny," with John Beal, Trudy Marshall, Barbara Read, Helen Mowrey, Jimmy Lloyd; "Son of Rusty," with Ted Donaldson, Tom Powers, Ann Doran, Stephen Dunne.
Shooting: "Sweet Genevieve," "Blondie in the Dough," "The Man from Colorado," "Assigned to Treasury" (Kennedy-Buchman).

Eagle-Lion

Finished: "Out of the Blue."
Shooting: "Love from a Stranger."

M-G-M

Shooting: "The Pirate," "Good News."

Mounogram

Finished: "Kilroy Was Here," "High Tide" (Wrather).
Shooting: "The Hunted," "Son of the Wasteland."

Paramount

Shooting: "The Big Clock."

PRC

Finished: "Pioneer Justice."
Started: "Ghost Town Renegades," with Lash Larue, Fuzzy St. John, Jennifer Holt; "Bury Me Dead," with Cathy O'Donnell, Greg McClure, Hugh Beaumont, June Lockhart.
Shooting: "Gas House Kids Go West."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Memory of Love," "Dick Tracy vs. the Gruesome Gang," "Mourning Becomes Electra," "Fighting Father Dunne," "Tycoon."

Republic

Finished: "Complex" (Wilder).
Started: "Robin Hood of Texas," with Gene Autry, Lynne Roberts, Sterling Holloway, Adele Mara.
Shooting: "Along the Oregon Trail," "The Outcast."

Selznick

Finished: "The Paradine Case."
Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Kiss of Death," "Scudda Hoo, Scudda Hay," "Captain from Castile."

United Artists

Shooting: "Atlantis" (Nero).

Universal-International

Shooting: "Singapore," "Something in the Wind" (formerly "For the Love of Mary"), "Secret Beyond the Door" (Dianna), "Brute Force" (Hellinger), "Lost Moment" (Wanger) (formerly "Lost Love").

Warners

Shooting: "Treasure of the Sierra Madre," "Whiplash," "Voice of the Turtle," "Two Guys from Texas," "Wallflower."

Review

"The Homestretch"

(20th Century-Fox)

THOSE party to the production of "The Homestretch" played matters right on the line. From the time Wanda Tuchok knocked out her original story and script and thereafter down the line through the hands of producer Robert Bassler, director Bruce Humberstone and a cast headed by Cornel Wilde and Maureen O'Hara, it is a case of very standard equipment echoing and re-echoing familiarly through the cycles of films about horse races and romance.

"The Homestretch," however, has its two well-known stars whose popularity—more pointedly in the instance of Wilde—is not to be discounted. The attraction has the advantage of good Technicolor, superb production values and magnificently photographed and exciting racing sequences which lose their punch because of repetition. Standard equipment in various departments as it is, the film ought to do standard grosses and, perhaps better in those areas where Wilde and Miss O'Hara have displayed strength in earlier efforts.

But Miss Tuchok's story about Wilde and his racing blood, Miss O'Hara and her New England background and how they marry, run into difficulties, split up and finally reunite is tired stuff, never rekindled beyond its routine by new twists. Performances are in keeping with the story and so, too, is direction. When the runners are on display, "The Homestretch" reflects excitement. When the humans are on display, they are pretty tiresome in their artificiality. They are puppets dangling on a precarious dramatic string.

Others in the cast are Helen Walker as the demi-monde, Glenn Langan as a stuffed-shirt diplomat, Henry Stephenson as the Argentinian horse breeder, James Gleason as the trainer and Ethel Griffies as the maiden aunt.

Running time, 96 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, May.

RED KANN

Washington Buying Fewer School Films

WASHINGTON, April 17. — Local schools are buying far fewer films today than they were a year ago, according to Floyd E. Brooker, chief of the visual aid section of the Office of Education.

Money which was formerly used for films now is allocated for teachers' salaries, Brooker said. He stated, however, that this will raise the standard of education, which will then contribute to the progress of the film as an education medium. Brooker pointed out that if film producers would re-cut, re-edit and re-track footage shot in remote parts of the world, such films would be of educational value.

MPA Steps Up

(*Continued from page* 1)

gram intensified promotion through all possible media. It was said the fact that the program thus far has met with success principally on its own merits, has led the MPA to believe that a large-scale promotional effort will bring about acceptance of the program far beyond what was visualized at its inception.

Up to now, De Bra said, "the public reaction to the idea has been better than anticipated. In six months there has been more theatre participation than in the whole lifetime of the original "Saturday Morning Movie" program, which was initiated in 1925. Experience indicates that this is because parents of today can retrieve from memory their own childhood experience with motion pictures." This reaction, he added, "comes in local communities not only from women's clubs and Parent-Teacher Associations but also from city officials, clergymen, superintendents of schools, and organizations interested professionally in child welfare."

The MPA's initial move in its new promotional effort is a 33-page booklet describing the program. Copies will be shipped to women's associations, schools, etc. Each new exhibitor subscribing to the program, De Bra explained, will have the MPA's guarantee of pre-release publicity and promotion.

Ten Features From PRC In a Month

Ten films, four features and six Westerns, will be released during April by Producers Releasing Corp. They follow:

"Three on a Ticket," latest in the series of Michael Shayne detective mysteries; "Philo Vance's Gamble," "West to Glory," and "The Big Fix," all in release.

The Westerns, to be released under the general title of "Bronco Buckaroos," will be released on April 26. Four of these—"Frontier Fighters," "Raiders of Red Gap," "Panhandle Trail" and "Code of the Plains," co-star Buster Crabbe and Al (Fuzzy) St. John. The other two, "Thundergap Outlaws" and "Shootin' Irons," co-star Jim Newhill and Tex O'Brien.

Bank Set Up to Aid Mexican Production

WASHINGTON, April 17. — The recently established Credito Cinematografico Mexicana, S.A., is ready to begin financing the Mexican motion picture industry, according to Nathan D. Golden, U. S. Commerce Department motion picture consultant.

Dinner for Aepell

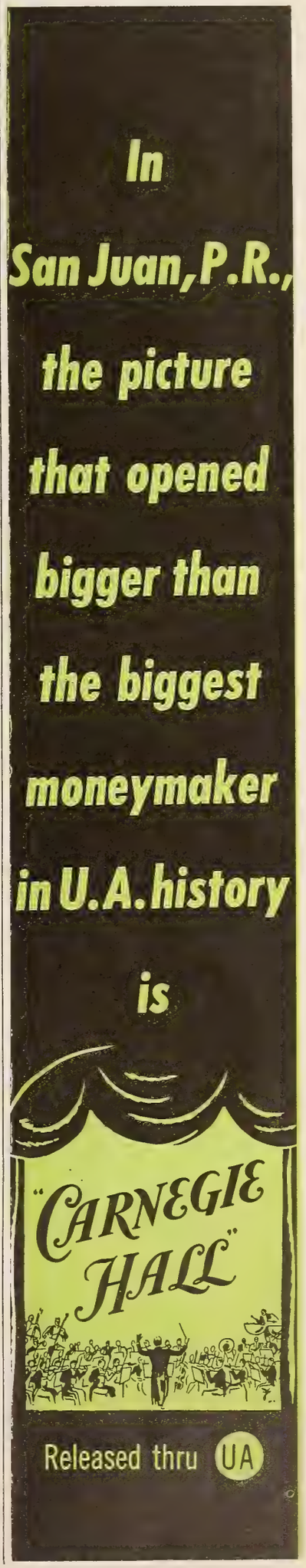
SEATTLE, April 17.—Executive and publicity men threw a dinner party here last night for Tom Aepell, who left today for Los Angeles to take charge of the M-G-M office there. He is being succeeded here by Sam Davis.

Head St. Louis MPF

(*Continued from page* 1)

secretary of the committee, respectively.

A partial list of the St. Louis committee also includes Harry C. Arthur Jr., Charles Goldman, Thomas James, Sam Komm, Sam Levin, Jack Siepker, Bess Schulter, Clarence Turley, all of St. Louis, and Jim Frisina, George Keresotes, Carson Rodgers, Oscar Turner and Isador Weinshienk of Southern Illinois.







Artist . . . with light and shadow

● To hold the drama which darkness gave this scene, yet not sacrifice identity and clarity of action . . . this was the problem on which the picture's director and the director of photography worked hard—and successfully.

To this same end the timer also worked—successfully. By his skilled selection of printing light, his judgment of light and shadow, he faithfully interpreted the director's aim . . . made certain that the visual result would be vivid, dramatic, convincing.

To get the most from his ability, the timer must work with film of assured uniformity . . . one of the many qualities which make the family of Eastman motion picture films so useful to the industry.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

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NEW YORK, N. Y.
(6 COPIES)

VOL. 61. NO. 77 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1947 TEN CENTS

MPF Getting Ready for National Meet

Area Sessions Are Now Being Held in Field

The Motion Picture Foundation, launched at an industry-wide conference in New Orleans last December to raise an initial $10,000,000 for the aid of needy film workers, is now well along with area organizing meetings, several having already been held and many others scheduled, in preparation for a national meeting to be held on May 12.

The following organizing meetings have already been held: Charlotte, April 14, H. F. Kincey, chairman; St. Louis, April 16, Joseph Ansell, chairman, and Fred Wehrenberg, trustee; Chicago, April 16, Edward G. Zorn, national trustee, and Arthur Schoenstadt, chairman; Salt Lake City, April 16, Saul J. Ullman and Neil Hellman, temporary chairman.

Area organizing meetings scheduled

(*Continued on page 6*)

Berger's Report to Open NCA Meeting

MINNEAPOLIS, April 20.—The New York Federal court decree "serves notice" on distributors that they must stop their "vicious practices" against the independent exhibitor, North Central Allied president Ben Berger will tell an estimated 300 members and guests expected at a meeting of the organization here tomorrow.

In his annual report, Berger will

(*Continued on page 6*)

Gillham Appoints 28 Field Men for SRO

Twenty-eight promotional field men have been appointed by Robert M. Gillham, Eastern advertising-publicity manager of Selznick Releasing Organization, as David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" is being placed in more than 300 key theatres from Coast to Coast to open during the first week in May.

Working under supervision of Claud Morris, SRO exploitation manager, the following field units have thus far been set up, with additional appointments to follow.

Operating in the Pacific and North-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Rising Costs Are A Mutual Problem Says U-I's Scully

Rising production costs being out of all proportion to what they were six years ago, have become the mutual problem of exhibitors and distributors, William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager of Universal-International emphasized in a two-day sales conference attended by the company's district managers and the home office sales cabinet.

The meeting, held at U-I's home office on Saturday and Sunday, was devoted to the formulation of release and sales plans for the next four months.

Scully, in a formal statement based upon the points covered in the meeting, said that the entire industry is obliged to calculate better type of exhibition if American production intends to produce pictures in the traditional manner. We cannot turn back to low budget pictures, because

(*Continued on page 6*)

600 at Edward Fay Testimonial Tonight

PROVIDENCE, April 20.—Some 600 film executives and others are expected at the golden testimonial dinner to be given to Edward M. Fay, nationally-known Providence theatre owner, tomorrow night, according to the committee arranging the dinner.

Meyer Stanzler, chairman of the committee, announced that among those who have wired their intentions to attend are Albert M. Warner, Joseph R. Vogel, Barney Balaban, Jack Cohn, Malcolm Kingsburg, George Schaeffer and scores of others.

Also expected to attend, Stanzler said, are: Frank C. Walker, Eddie Dowling, Basil O'Connor, Gus Eyssell, William F. Rodgers, Thomas J. Connors, Ned Depinet, Herman Rob-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Set Exhibitor Unit At UJA Meet Here

Quotas throughout the country are being generously met, Barney Balaban, United Jewish Appeal national chairman, announced here Friday at a luncheon-meeting held at the Hotel Astor to organize company chairmen for the industry's drive to raise $2,100,000 in the Metropolitan New York area. At the meeting an independent exhibitor committee for the New York

(*Continued on page 6*)

Building Limitations Still On: Creedon

Washington, April 20.—U. S. Housing Expediter Creedon has emphasized that all non-housing controls, including the limitation on new commercial construction, are still being enforced. Creedon said that he is drawing attention to their continued existence to correct erroneous impressions that the controls have been dropped.

Sixth Newsreel Is Promised for May 1

On May 1, a new newsreel, Telenews Digest, will bow in newsreel theatres across the nation and will be made available for feature houses which choose to supplement their present newsreels services. It is to be produced by Telenews Productions, New Lork, which is an affiliate of the Telenews Theatre circiut. Both companies are headed by Herbert Scheftel.

"Telenews Digest, heralded as 'An International Newsreel', is not being produced to compete with the existing five major newsreels," Telenews executives state. "Rather," they explain, "it will be used to supplement those reels." The new reel, which will be issued once weekly, will be made in addition to Telenews Productions' short subjects program, now underway.

For New York, the reel has been contracted for by the entire Embassy and Trans-Lux circuits, as well as the Grand Central Newsreel theatre.

AFL Office Union, WB to Open Talks

First of several meetings with home offices of major film companies in a drive for a "cost-of-living" wage adjustment for office employes will get under way here this week when the Motion Picture Home Office Employes Union, Local No. H-63, IATSE, will meet with Warner home office executives. Discussions will start tomorrow or Wednesday, according to the union.

Seven contracts, including those of Warner, Universal-International, M-G-M and several music publishing companies, are being reopened for wage discussions or new ones are to be negotiated during the next six weeks, the local's executive board announced last week. The board has announced that it will seek uniform increases of 20 per cent, or a minimum rise of $8.

Only 1 of 5 Working on Dissolutions

All but RKO Marking Time on Partnerships

Of the five theatre-owning defendants in the industry anti-trust suit, only one, RKO Radio, is making at present a determined effort to effect theatre partnership dissolutions in conformance with the terms of the decision handed down by the New York Court, according to a survey made last week by MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Thus far, RKO has divested itself of one partnership, appears about to consummate another, and expects to pursue negotiations looking toward dissolution of other independent and defendant company partnerships regardless of what

(*Continued on page 6*)

20th-Fox Net Is $22,619,535 for '46

Consolidated net profit of $22,619,535 for 1946 was reported by 20th Century-Fox on Friday. This compares with consolidated net profit of $12,746,467 for 1945.

Profit for the final 1946 quarter was $6,399,720, compared with $5,217,180 for the corresponding period in 1945.

The company's gross income for 1946 amounted to $190,323,173, compared with $178,211,889 in the preceding year. Current assets of $103,055,004 were reported as of Dec. 28 last, and current liabilities were $33,748,750. Current assets included cash of $34,204,561 and government securities of $8,938,780.

In a message to stockholders accompanying the report, Spyros P. Skouras, president, reveals that the company's film rentals for the first quarter of 1947 showed an increase over the corresponding period last year.

Earnings for 1946, after deducting dividends paid on prior preferred and convertible preferred stocks, amounted to $7.90 per share on the common.

4 Reviews Today

"Banjo," page 6; "Born to Kill," "Twilight on the Rio Grande," and "A Likely Story," page 7.

Personal Mention

HARRY M. WARNER, president of Warner Brothers, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

NATHAN LEVINSON, head of the Warner Studio sound department, and FRANK E. CAHILL, JR., Warner Theatres' sound director, left here yesterday for Chicago to attend the SMPE convention here.

•

JOHN G. CAPSTAFF, head of Eastman Kodak's research laboratories' photographic department at Rochester, N. Y., has been awarded the 1946 "Progress Medal" of Great Britain's Royal Photographic Society.

•

GEORGE WELTNER, president of Paramount International, and CLEMENT S. CRYSTAL, theatre department head, will leave England tomorrow aboard the *S.S. Queen Elizabeth,* due here April 24.

•

HANK LINET, Eastern advertising manager of Universal-International, left New York by plane for the Coast Saturday night with MAURICE A. BERGMAN, Eastern advertising-publicity director.

•

ROBERT BERNHARD, former booker for Loew's here, has joined Film Classics' New York exchange as salesman.

•

WALTER BROOKS left New York yesterday for Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Toledo and Columbus. He will return April 27.

•

M. A. LIGHTMAN, SR., president of Malco Theatres, Memphis, is in Miami for a vacation and bridge tournament.

•

MARTIN MARK QUIGLEY, son of MR. and MRS. MARTIN QUIGLEY, JR., was born in New York on Friday.

•

BEULAH DURHAM, of the E. V. Dinerman advertising agency, Cincinnati, is visiting in New York.

•

JOSEPH COTTEN and MRS. COTTEN have left New York for an automobile tour of the South.

•

LEO SELIGMAN, Favorite Films treasurer, will return here from Miami Beach today.

•

HAROLD RODNER, Warner Brothers Service Corp. executive, will return to New York today from the Coast.

$5,421, $3,829 for 'Duel' Debut Shows

"Duel in the Sun" grossed $5,421 on its opening day at Loew's Theatre, Rochester, N. Y., and $3,829 on its opening day at Loew's State, Syracuse, N. Y., the Selznick Releasing Organization office here reports.

Both the Rochester and Syracuse figures exceed by approximately 15 per cent the opening-day grosses of Selznick's "Gone With the Wind."

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE assertion of this department last week that "the stay of competitive bidding is a complete legal safeguard in itself for any company which does not wish to engage in that method of licensing" was disputed as soon as it appeared in print by several attorneys.

Their contention is that, as an integral part of the New York Federal court decision, licensing by competitive bidding is the law and will continue to be the law until and unless it is reversed by the Supreme Court. Therefore, they claim, a defendant company which disregards competitive bidding on the strength of the stay granted by the Supreme Court, eventually may be liable in civil suits if competitive bidding is upheld.

It was the opinion of this department, as it is of some attorneys, that competitive bidding, having been devised by the court as an alternative to affiliated theatre divorcement, it might be inferred that the court did not intend to hold all other systems of licensing illegal. It was assumed that this was true especially with respect to those defendants which are not concerned with theatre divorcement, and those which complied with single picture selling.

•

One legalite who has no particular concern with the problems of theatre divorcement insists that he regards everything in the decision to be law, competitive bidding included.

"I do not think it would be wise of me to advise my company to ignore the considered judgment of three eminent Federal jurists in favor of doing things my way. Knowing that if the company followed my advice, it could be laying itself open to civil actions, it becomes a matter simply of whether three experienced Federal jurists are wrong and I am right. I, for one, am not that cocksure. Therefore, I have advised our company to make competitive bidding available to exhibitors who request it in any competitive area despite the stay of the decree."

• •

The reactions last week of both Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and Allied States to the stay of the New York decree were somewhat amusing to this corner.

There was a note of deprecation in bulletins commenting on the subject for the benefit of the respective memberships of the two organizations. MPTOA, while finding some satisfaction in the new lease on life granted to industry arbitration, put emphasis on the point that the stay of the decree does not alter the law of the decision, which the defendants are bound to observe.

Allied termed the whole thing overemphasized and the stay of competitive bidding a foregone conclusion to those familiar with such things. We assume that the prosecuting attorney, the government, is as familiar with such things as anyone connected with the case but it apparently, did not regard a stay of anything as a foregone conclusion. It opposed the granting of any and all stays of any part of the decree, to the end and beyond the end.

We are constrained to wonder whether the prominent part played by the American Theatres Association in the successful fight for a stay of the decree influenced the MPTOA and Allied reactions to the outcome of that fight.

•

To many responsible and impartial industry figures the stay is of the utmost importance because without it the new and revolutionary order decreed by the New York court would have been immediately and universally (in the industry) the order of business. Any misstep, however unintentional, could result in a contempt citation. The industry surely could expect to spend a large part of its time in the courthouse as it felt its way into an untried and complex method of doing business.

Now, however, all threat of contempt citations has been removed. The industry is free to embark upon the new method unhurriedly, sure of its ground and with a reasonable amount of time in which to gain experience for itself and its personnel in the new order. When and if that order has been affirmed by the Supreme Court, the experience gained by the experimental procedure open to it now, will be of the utmost value in keeping industry trips to the courthouse at a minimum then.

And if the new order is reversed by the court there will have been no fruitless upheaval in the industry, meanwhile.

To the many whom it most concerns that is not only important but extremely vital.

Newsreel Parade

THE disaster in Texas City is spotlighted in all newsreels, with News of the Day devoting all of its footage to the story. Other items include the new world flight record, Babe Ruth on vacation and Admiral Byrd's homecoming. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 67—Disaster in Texas City. Reynolds round-the-world flight. Babe Ruth in Florida. Royal show in Sydney, Australia.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 265—The Texas City blast.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 68—Admiral Byrd comes home. Hirohito, sports fan. Vacation for Babe Ruth. Blast wrecks Texas City.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 70—Reynolds round-the-world flight. The Texas City blast.

UNIVERSAL, No. 31—First pictures of America's worst disaster in 30 years. World flight record. Emperor Hirohito goes democratic and congratulates soccer team.

N. J. Allied's 28th Annual Meet, June 24

June 24-26 have been set by Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey for its triple-feature, 28th annual convention, to be held at the Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City. To date, over 200 reservations have been registered by theatre owners in states bordering on the Atlantic Seaboard, according to convention manager E. Thornton Kelley.

In addition to New Jersey Allied convention proceedings, sharing in the spotlight will be a theatre equipment show, and a testimonial banquet in honor of National Allied president Jack Kirsch.

Edward Lachman, president of New Jersey Allied, has appointed the following to the convention committee: Irving Dollinger, Linden; George Gold, Newark; Lee Newbury, Manasquan; Harry H. Lowenstein, Newark; Sam Frank Hammonton.

The United Nations' International Telecommunications Department will hold a conference at the Ambassador Hotel at the same time and UN delegates have been invited to inspect Allied's exhibits and attend its social functions, including the Kirsch testimonial.

Networks, Writers, Union Meet Apr. 24

The four radio networks and the Radio Writers Guild will meet here on Thursday in an effort to stave off an air writers' strike by way of discussing a new contract. The union, which is seeking for the most part a writer's ownership of his script, filed a 30-day strike notice on April 10.

Jennie Simon Dies at 72

PITTSBURGH, April 20.—Jennie Simons, 72, mother of Jack A. Simons, manager of the Center Theatre in Hartford, has died at her home here.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Paramount Raises Its Cartoon Output

DALLAS, April 20.—Contrary to the general trend toward reduction in the output of cartoon films, Paramount is increasing production in that field and will release 24 cartoons next season against 18 to be released this season, Oscar A. Morgan, short subjects and newsreel sales manager, announced at the weekend at the first of a series of 31 branch sales meetings which he will conduct across the country. In 1947-48, Paramount will release a total of 64 short subjects and the usual 104 issues of Paramount News, Morgan said.

The company's decision to step up production of short subjects is predicated upon a more widespread demand for cartoon reels, Morgan explained. He said a new series, "Screen Songs," featuring the "bouncing ball," is included in the new line-up. These song cartoons, he added, will replace the "Little Lulu" series, which will be eliminated along with the Pal "Puppetoons."

Paramount's new season's short subject program will include also six two-reel "Musical Parade Featurettes," in Technicolor; 24 Famous Studios Technicolor cartoons, including eight "Noveltoons," and eight "Popeye" cartoons; three Jerry Fairbanks series, including six "Popular Science," in Magnacolor, six "Unusual Occupations," also in Magnacolor, and six "Speaking of Animals," six "Pacemakers" and 10 "Grantland Rice Sportlights."

M. R. Clark, district manager; Heywood Simmons, sales manager, and members of the Dallas sales force and booking departments were present at the meeting.

Morgan will conduct the next Paramount short subjects branch meeting in Memphis, April 23, on Wednesday.

FM Applications in 11 Cities Delayed

WASHINGTON, April 20.—The Federal Communications Commission has deferred action on all applications for class B F-M stations in Cleveland, Akron, Dayton, Springfield, O., Indianapolis, Providence, Atlanta, Mansfield, O., Baltimore, San Diego and Springfield, Mass.

The commission said it is studying a modification of its rules and standards covering class B F-M stations, and if these changes are adopted, the effect would be to increase stations in those 11 cities. Therefore, it announces, it will withhold decisions on those applications until it decides on the nature of the changes.

18,000 Television Sets Made in 3 Months of '47

WASHINGTON, April 20.—Over 18,000 television sets were produced during the first three months of 1947, according to the Radio Manufacturers Association. During the same period more than 172,000 FM-AM radio sets were manufactured.

New Distributor To Reissue White Film

Pearl White, "Serial Queen" of the silent motion picture era, will again be seen on the screen in a revival of one of her originals, according to William R. Sheeky, executive director of Grand International Pictures, newly formed producing-distributing organization.

Television to Top SMPE Meet Today

Chicago, April 20.—The 61st semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers will get underway at the Drake Hotel here tomorrow and continue through Friday, with late developments in motion pictures for television the primary subject. Loren L. Ryder is president of the SMPE.

Reade Drafts Civic Relations Project

Creation of a special department in Walter Reade Theatres, encompassing a public relations and advertising campaign to stress the civic role of theatres in the life of the community, has been set by Walter Reade, Jr.; Jim Brady, Reade fieldman in the Asbury Park area, and Steve Brener, home office advertising and publicity chief, have been designated to map plans which will call upon each member of the circuit to take part in the project.

Included in the program, according to Reade, is the establishment in each situation of a committee of representatives by churches of all denominations, to prepare a special trailer which will emphasize the importance of the church and attendance at their respective places of worship by the theatre audience. Through an institutional advertising program, which will get under way immediately, Reade added, Reade theatres will illustrate what the theatre is doing to help each town grow and prosper.

Plans call for cooperative selling aids between the Reade force and local merchants and chambers of commerce, as well as the setting up of a local committee for charities to formulate a system of distributing funds collected in local theatres on a selected week each year. Schools and community organizations will be given the use of theatres for special shows, he added.

Examination Granted In ASCAP Suit Here

Attorneys representing 164 independent theatres in New York in their treble-damage suit against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers were instructed by Judge John Bright, of New York Federal Court, to meet with ASCAP attorneys this week to fix a date for examination of Harry Brandt and other plaintiffs. He also suggested that the attorneys set a date for examination of ASCAP.

U.S. Film to Star G.I. Bill of Rights

WASHINGTON, April 20.—The G. I. Bill of Rights will star in a picture. The international motion picture division of the State Department has selected it as the subject for a new film which will trace the life of a bill from its inception to its passage, according to Herbert T. Edwards, acting chief.

Edwards also reported that State Department films now also reach a Mexican audience of 1,500,000 and are seen by over 90 per cent of the country's students.

Warner Urges Films Hit Un-Americanism

HOLLYWOOD, April 20.—Militant intensification of the industry's fight against un-American ideologies is urged by Jack L. Warner, vice-president in charge of production for Warner Brothers, coupled with an announcement that a topical new film exposing the effects of communist and fascist influences on American democracy has been placed in work at the Warner studio.

The new picture, "Up Until Now," will be filmed largely in Boston, against the historical background of that city's patriotic shrines, Warner stated. Ronald Reagan, Viveca Lindfors and Claude Rains are to be starred.

Jerry Wald, producer, Delmer Daves, director, and David Goodis, author of the story, already have visited Boston and arranged for location sites.

"'Backslid' Americans, as well as outside enemies of our free institutions, will be exposed in this story of a Boston family," Warner said. "Here at Warner Brothers, we have no room for 'backslid' Americans and 'wishy-washy' concepts of Americanism. We believe that our films must reflect positive Americanism founded on the fundamental principles of the Declaration of Independence, our Constitution and our Bill of Rights."

Warner further emphasized that "Up Until Now" will not be a "middle of the road" picture about democracy. We do not believe democracy has middle lanes, left detours or right alleys," the executive said. "The great highway of American liberty is sufficiently broad and straight for all to travel in peace, prosperity and happiness."

Bercovici Testifies in His Chaplin Suit

Denying the existence of a contract between Konrad Bercovici and Charles Chaplin, Louis Frohlich, counsel for Chaplin, opened the $5,000,000 damage suit brought by the writer against the producer in New York Federal Court on Friday with the assertion that Bercovici never sold any literary work to Chaplin.

Bercovici, appearing as the first witness in his suit in connection with the writing of "The Great Dictator," asserted that in 1937 he wrote a scenario on the Haymarket Riot for Chaplin, which the latter rejected, and also wrote several stories purportedly for Paulette Goddard, Chaplin's former wife. In 1938, he continued, while he was lecturing on dictatorships, he was approached by Chaplin with a request to write a satire on dictators. Court was recessed until tomorrow when the picture will be shown to the judge and jury.

American Eagle to Meet in Chicago

HOLLYWOOD, April 20.—American Eagle Films' vice-president Leo F. McCarthy announces that the company's initial franchise holders' convention will be held at the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago on June 10 instead of in Hollywood as previously planned. Officers and a board of directors will be named.

700 FM Stations by Winter, Says FCC

Washington, April 20.—FCC officials confirm the prediction made three months ago by FCC chairman Charles R. Denny that there would be 700 FM radio stations operating in the country by next winter. Present count shows that there are only about 200 operating now, but 233 applications are now on file.

Warners Trying Sound-on-Tape

Predicting eventual adoption of magnetic tape recording to supplant the sound track, Nathan Levinson, sound chief at the Warner Coast studios, disclosed at a press interview here on Friday that his research staff is experimenting actively to iron out technical and mechanical problems impeding use of the tape in conjunction with films.

More immediately, however, Warner is striving to recover its pre-war position with respect to the standardization of sound and projection equipment, Levinson said. In order to collate the status and needs of equipment in the Warner circuit, 12 chief engineers have been called from their respective areas to meetings beginning in New York April 28, he disclosed.

At the same time the Warner chief of sound revealed that he has been conferring with Ernest Royls, Warner sound chief in England, in order to bring its Teddington studios up to par, as well as the Warner Theatre in London. Badly "blitzed" in the war, Teddington is expected to resume full-scale operations within 90 days.

Levinson said he will fly to Chicago to attend the convention of Society of Motion Picture Engineers which opens there today. Royls and other Warner sound executives will accompany him.

New Officers Elected By Buffalo Variety

BUFFALO, April 20.—Dewey Michaels of the Palace Theatre here has been elected chief barker of Variety Club Tent No. 7. Other new officers are: first assistant, William Dipson; second assistant, Myron Gross; dough guy, Harry L. Berkson; property master, W. E. J. Martin.

Also: Canvasmen, Arthur Bailey, John G. Chinell, Murray Whiteman, Albert Becker, Andrew Gibson and Richard Walsh; national canvasman, Elmer Lux; alternate, Robert T. Murphy; convention delegates, Andrew Gibson, Harry L. Berkson, Murray Whiteman and Myron Gross.

Republic Signs Wilder For Six Pictures

W. Lee Wilder, independent producer who has supplied Republic with five moderate-budget features, has signed a new deal with the company calling for production of six high-budget features during the next three years.

Under the original contract, Wilder was to make six in the minor category, but the sixth film will be dispensed with under the new arrangement.

WM. J. BLATT
BUSINESS MANAGER

CHARLES R. BLATT
OPERATIONS MANAGER

JOHN A. BLATT
PROMOTION MANAGER

BLATT BROTHERS THEATRES *

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PITTSBURGH (19), PENNSYLVANIA
PHONE: GRANT 3518

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PAR-K THEATRE
SOMERSET

REX THEATRE
CORRY

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GREENVILLE

MAIN THEATRE
GREENVILLE

GRAND THEATRE
PATTON

LIBERTY THEATRE
MERCER

ARCADIA THEATRE
NEW BETHLEHEM

PEARL THEATRE
YOUNGWOOD

ROARING SPRING THEATRE
ROARING SPRING

DENMAN THEATRE
GIRARD

PERRY THEATRE
ALBION

GRAND THEATRE
PORT ALLEGANY

STATE THEATRE
YOUNGSVILLE

STAR THEATRE
SMETHPORT

BLUE RIDGE THEATRE
BERLIN

STATE THEATRE
EAST BRADY

ROXY THEATRE
MARTINSBURG

PENN THEATRE
WESLEYVILLE

April 2, 1947

Mr. Harry Rees
United Artists Corp.,
1715 Blvd of Allies
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Harry:

You asked me the other day what kind of success we were having with your attraction ABIES IRISH ROSE.

Now, while I am not on United Artists payroll, I still am happy to tell you our experience. This picture has had very successful engagements for us and while we have run it in towns with heavy Catholic population and other towns with heavy Protestant population, we have not had one serious complaint. As a matter of fact, everyone seems to enjoy the picture and I think this is proved by all Boxoffice receipts which were very good.

Very truly yours,

BLATT BROTHERS THEATRES

Wm. J. Blatt

WJB:H

* Blatt Brothers Theatres operate 22 houses in Western Pa. and New York State.

VOL

ABIE'S IRISH ROSE"

"very successful engagements!"

"everyone seems to enjoy the picture!"

"all Boxoffice receipts very good!"

"Very truly yours,"

from UA

Foundation Ready

(*Continued from page* 1)

include the following: Des Moines, today, Leo F. Wolcott and A. H. Blank; Minneapolis, today, at a special luncheon of North Central Allied convention, Charles Winchell, Harry French, Harold Field, Benny Berger and Ted Bolnick, temporary committeemen; Pittsburgh, later this week, Moe Silver and Maurice Finkel, temporary chairmen; Omaha, May 5, Leo F. Wolcott and A. H. Blank, temporary chairmen; Seattle, May 5-8 at convention of Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, J. M. Hone, temporary chairman.

These sessions will select 31 area trustees, who will meet on May 12 with 10 distributor trustees to elect 10 trustees at large, plans a national executive committee and officers for the foundation's first years.

Each area committee will consist of an odd number of members, from seven to 17, divided into a "Group A," which will serve throughout the first year, and a "group B," serving throughout the first two. The "A" members, with a majority of one over those in the "B" class, will have two-year terms also after the staggered election system has been established.

The permanent area chairmen chosen by the committees will serve for one year, while 15 of the area trustees selected will be replaced at the next annual meeting—and the remaining 16 in two years—with the distinction on this point determined by lot. After this system has been established, all trustees will have two-year terms. Barney Balaban is temporary steering committee chairman.

The distribution companies belonging to the Foundation likewise will elect a chairman annually and 10 trustees biennially, with five of the latter serving for a single year at the outset. A majority vote of the distributor members may, from time to time, admit new companies to the organization.

The Foundation's 41 area and distributor trustees, at their first annual meeting, will elect 10 additional trustees to represent the industry at large. Five of these at the outset will serve for one year and the other five for two, with two-year terms for all being established thereafter.

The executive committee of 15 members will exercise all powers of the board, except by-law amendments, in the intervals between meetings. The executive committee, of which the president is to be a member, will work out a schedule of regular sessions, and special ones may be called on 48 hours' notice by the president or any two members, but no action may be taken unless at least 12 are present and unless at least 10 vote in favor of the action proposed.

BY ORDER OF
U S O CAMP SHOWS, INC.
TROOPERS — ATTENTION
A-1 condition clothing, ensembles for individuals. All types and sizes and occasions.
At public auction, April 28th, at 10 A.M.
8 West 62nd Street
Theatrical Props, Public Address Systems, Luggage, Etc.
Exhibition—April 21st to 26th
10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Thomas F. Burchill
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7 West 24th St., New York City
Phone: CHELSEA 2-5353

Review

"Banjo"

(RKO Radio)

Hollywood, April 20

FOR children surfeited with cartoon characters, this is ideal fare. There are half-a-dozen real children in the cast, which Sharyn Moffett heads, including two small delightful youngsters designated in Lillie Hayward's screenplay as "Genesis" and "Exodus."

As for the plot, it is simple enough, and sufficiently time-worn to have proved its appeal. A little girl, born in the South, where with her faithful hunting-dog she roams the fields all day, is sent North to the grudging care of her aunt. Jacqueline White is given the thankless task of portraying the aunt, as unconvincing and incredible a character as ever devised by a screenwriter. After showing herself to be sullen, bitter, hard-hearted and venomous by turns, it is difficult to credit her sudden change of heart. The change comes when the little girl, returning to her old plantation home, is attacked by a swamp-cat, and her life saved by her faithful friend, the hunting-dog. Walter Reed, playing opposite Miss White, is personable, pleasant and attractively natural. Miss Hayward, who wrote the screenplay—an excessively wordy one—also produced. Richard O. Fleischer directed.

Running time, 67 minutes. General audience classification. Release in block No. 5.

THALIA BELL

Rising Costs

(*Continued from page* 1)

the public expects quality no matter what is involved in the high cost of production, Scully declared, continuing:

"We are not only coping with a 35 per cent rise in basic and labor costs, but we must be able to meet the cost of personalities and properties which continue to go up each year.

"Exhibitors must surely realize the necessity of playing pictures with stars and also the importance of making pictures from popular books and plays.

"They realize this is imperative if we are to consistently maintain high levels of patronage.

"Pictures embracing the best ingredients are entitled to all the playing time that the picture earns. The day is past when an exhibitor should not be willing to give what assistance he can by allowing extended playing time when the box-office warrants it."

Scully cited the extended playing time being afforded "The Egg and I," and said that in this case exhibitors are only asked to give the picture the playing time it deserves. He observed that this highlights the fact that the public is eager for good comedy, which was scarce during the war period.

Scully also cited the expanded market for the J. Arthur Rank product which the company is contemplating to handle in the same manner as all product produced in U-I's studio.

"We feel that exhibitors and distributors certainly have an equal stake in the industry. It is time all of us revert to that real spirit of showmanship which made this a great business. Everyone connected with the showing of a picture is obliged to get the most out of it," he concluded.

600 at Fay Dinner

(*Continued from page* 1)

bins, William A. Scully, Benjamin Kalmenson, George L. Carrington, Abe Montague, Martin Quigley, Red Kann, Leonard Goldenson, S. H. Fabian, and others.

Stanzler said a special "Edward M. Fay Train" will leave Grand Central Station at one P.M. on Monday, the day of the testimonial.

New Carolina Theatre

MEMPHIS, April 20.—The Main Theatre, a new $25,000 house, will be opened at Russellville next Friday by E. R. Gillett of Memphis.

NCA Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

say that Justice Reed's stay orders "do not alter this warning."

Berger will also predict that the U. S. Supreme Court will order complete divorcement. His report will say that "ever-increasing" film rentals will continue for some time to come and it will charge distributors with "selling the same horse twice, and getting a pound of flesh both times" with a policy of 60 to 70 per cent of the gross on advanced admission engagements, and 40 to 50 per cent under regular admission charges.

Scheduled appearance of Robert L. Wright, special government prosecutor in the industry anti-trust suit, is expected to prove a heavy draw. Wright is scheduled to discuss the anti-trust case at an open forum which will also consider the various trade practices under fire by the Minneapolis allied unit, including local checkers and product shortage, as well as rental costs and percentages. Ascap music taxes and new forms of competition, including open air theatres, theatres that can be moved from one location to another and 16mm. films are also on the open forum agenda.

Tuesday's sessions will be highlighted by announcement of a "money-saving" clinic through which members will be kept informed of weak pictures; and discussion of national Allied's plans to tie up with sources of new product.

UJA Meet Here

(*Continued from page* 1)

campaign was appointed, including Sam Rinzler, chairman, Edward Rugoff, Harry Brandt, Julius Joelson, S. H. Fabian, Max A. Cohen, Leo Brecher and David Weinstock.

Balaban outlined the urgency of the drive to the industry leaders who attended. Matthew Fox, chairman, sketched the strategy of the campaign.

Among others who attended were: Jack Cohn, Emil Friedlander, Leopold Friedman, Samuel H. Friedman, Leonard Goldenson, Arthur Israel, Jr., Harry Kalmine, Malcolm Kingsberg, Harry Michaelson, W. C. Michel, Harold Rinzler, Abe Schneider, Adolph Schimel, Sol Schwartz, Sam Shain, J. J. Unger, Dr. Isidor Lubin, Phil Chasin and Al Zimbalist.

All those present at the meeting constituted themselves as chairmen of their respective companies.

Dissolutions

(*Continued from page* 1)

may be the outcome of the Supreme Court appeals from the New York decision.

However, the 150-theatre tie-up which RKO has with Paramount is unlikely to be dissolved this year as the latter company has decided to keep intact all of its partnerships until the Supreme Court rules on the appeals early next year, it is expected. Even it is unlikely too that RKO will arrive at dissolution of the three partnerships it has with Loew's and the 10 with Warners, it appears that RKO's dissolution efforts will be directed principally at its tie-ups with independents.

Twentieth Century-Fox and RKO recently completed a dissolution deal, subject to Federal Court approval, on the only theatre the two own jointly, the Main Street in Kansas City, Mo. But, like Loew's and Warners, 20th-Fox does not intend to make a concerted effort generally to effect dissolutions prior to the appeals ruling. The New York decree allows two years from Dec. 31, 1946, for the divestiture of partnership holdings.

Paramount owns jointly with independents 993 theatres; Warners owns jointly with independents 20; 20th owns 66; Loew's 21, and RKO, 187. Joint ownership between defendants is as follows: Paramount and 20th, 6; Paramount and Loew's, 14; Paramount and Warners, 25; Paramount and RKO, 150; Loew's and RKO, 3; Loew's and Warners, 5; 20th and RKO, 1, and Warners and RKO, 10. Of the theatres jointly owned with independents, the following numbers will not be affected by the decree, since the defendant or co-owning independent owns less than a five per cent interest: Paramount, 177; RKO, 32. The total theatres affected by the dissolution provisions of the decree is about 1,292.

Gillham Appoints 28

(*Continued from page* 1)

west will be Milton Watt, Philip Lees and Max Burcutt. Los Angeles engagements will be covered by B. A. Babb and Morris Abrams. Dallas will be handled by Ted Tod, George Wood, W. G. Thompson, Herb Jennings, Julian Bowes, Allen Glenn and Paul Blaufox.

The New York campaign, under supervision of Ted Baldwin, will be handled by Harry Goldberg, Jack Berk and Francis MacNamara. Atlanta, Richmond and Washington unit will consist of Ralph Stitt and Sidney M. Kain.

In New England, the following are now engaged, under supervision of Irwin Zeltner: Murray Lewis and Frank Clark in Syracuse; John McGrail, Boston, Providence, New Haven and Springfield; Allen Dowling, Worcester, Hartford and Norwich; Leon Jacobson, Bridgeport, Meriden; Waterbury, Tom Devane.

Also preparing campaigns on "Duel" are Al Longo, Rochester; Harry Rice, Harrisburg and Reading; Fred Stengel, Louisville, Evansville and Indianapolis; Arthur Price, Pittsburgh.

Martin Circuit Meet

ATLANTA, April 20.—Martin and Martin theatres, an affiliate of Martin Theatres, Columbus, Ga., will hold its second managers' meeting in Panasoffkee, Fla., on May 5.

Few French Films Suitable for U. S.

Because of differences in film tastes, only from 10 to 15 per cent of French productions are suitable for American audiences, according to Leo Cohen, distributor of foreign films.

The main problem facing a distributor of imports here, he said, is the lack of sufficient showcases. He pointed out that there is now a large backlog of foreign films that would go well here. As to the popularity of foreign pictures, he emphasized that in many instances they run for many months at the same house.

Something of a lessening of the foreign product jam is now being achieved by the fact that many more second-run houses are beginning to show foreign films.

Cohen will leave for Europe on May 24, to visit France, Belgium, Italy and Switzerland to line up product for Western hemisphere distribution.

M-G-M to Combine Actors with Cartoons

HOLLYWOOD, April 20. — Two-reel shorts combining live action with cartoon technique and offering name talent will be brought out by M-G-M next fall, with the first starring Margaret O'Brien, Fred Quimby, shorts department head, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Among the reasons for the innovation, says Quimby, is the increasing demand for quality shorts by theatres switching from double to single-bill policy. Shorts affording exhibitors established box-office names for the marquee are regarded as more valuable in the present market than minor-budget features, according to the studio's views.

Local Circuit Seeks City Tax Injunction

GAINESVILLE, Fla., April 20.—Florida Inland Theatres, Inc., operating three local theatres, has filed suit in Alachua County Circuit Court seeking an injunction to restrain the city from collecting a graduated amusement tax which became effective April 6. Joined with the corporation as plaintiff in the action was J. Vernon Zierjack, Gainesville resident and taxpayer.

The tax was passed by the City Commission on March 5 and imposes a three-cent levy on admissions in excess of 25 cents but less than 50 cents; five cents on admissions from 50 cents to $1 and eight cents on all over $1.

Peskay Asks Dismissal

Edward J. Peskay has asked for a dismissal of the $45,000 action which Hal Roach has filed against him in New York Federal Court, claiming that since Roach allowed a three-year lapse between the time of an allegedly unauthorized reissue deal between Peskay, acting for Roach, and Film Classics, the suit should be barred.

AMPA Invites Reynolds

Milton Reynolds, who made the record-breaking world flight, has been invited to attend the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' 30th anniversary celebration in the Hotel Astor here on Wednesday, to receive a citation.

Reviews

"Born to Kill"

(RKO Radio)

WITH such principals as Lawrence Tierney, Claire Trevor and Walter Slezak to grace the marquee, "Born to Kill" should tempt patrons who like their Tierney tough and ruthless and their Trevor captivating and calculating. Despite the heavy-handed melodrama and apparent weaknesses in several departments, this Herman Schlom production should prove a strong draw at the box-office. The picture itself is one of those affairs which winds up with five corpses.

A divorcee, fresh from shedding one husband, Miss Trevor stumbles upon two bodies left behind in haste by Tierney. She returns to her foster-sister's mansion in San Francisco without telling the police, meets Tierney on the way, blinks her eyes at him as a "come-on." Tierney follows through, only to discover that Miss Trevor is engaged to Phillip Terry, her design being a marriage into society and wealth. Tierney counters by ensnaring her innocent foster-sister, Audrey Long. The picture is then touch-and-go with Tierney and Trevor alternately aflame with jealousy and passion up to the final moment when an investigation by a private detective, played by Slezak, brings the police. Only Audrey Long and Phillip Terry emerge through all the double-dealing literally and figuratively upright.

Portrayals generally betray a tendency toward over-acting and grotesque emphasis, perhaps to achieve over-all melodrama, while the dialogue, in spots, appears forced and weighted by flourishes. Also in the cast are Elisha Cook, Jr., Isabel Jewell and Esther Howard. Robert Wise directed from a scenario by Eve Green and Richard Macaulay, based on a novel by James Gunn.

Running time, 92 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

IRVING KAPLAN

"Twilight on the Rio Grande"

(Republic)

FOR Gene Autry fans in particular and Western addicts generally, "Twilight on the Rio Grande" will more than fill the bill as Autry battles his way through a smuggling ring, solves a few murders and performs such an impossible feat as riding onto a speeding truck with Champion, Jr., at full tilt. The fact that this picture, directed by Frank McDonald, from an original by Dorrell and Stuart E. McGowan, offers an action-filled sleuthing story plus several delightful tunes, including "I Tipped My Hat and Slowly Rode Away," which stands high in juke-box popularity, should give it wide appeal.

When Autry's partner, Bob Steele, is found with a knife in his back in the Mexico-United States border area, Autry undertakes some detective work to get at the bottom of the murder. There is more knife-throwing when Autry becomes the straw man for Adele Mara's act but more seriously when a suspect is silenced and also when a dagger narrowly misses the hero. It all adds up to smuggling of jewels bought from refugees in Mexico across the border for disposal in the U. S. Aiding the activities are: Sterling Holloway, in a smooth, laugh-getting performance as Autry's pal; Charles Evans, as the master-mind of the outlaws; Martin Garralaga, as a Mexican insurance investigator disguised as a poor woodchopper, and the Cass County Boys. Songs include "Old Lamplighter," the title number and the aforementioned juke-box hit, among six presented. Armand Schaefer was associate producer.

Running time, 71 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 1.

I. K

"A Likely Story"

(RKO Radio)

Hollywood, April 2

THERE is notable novelty of approach, unique development of story, and some slick surprise twists in the scheme of things which accounts for a lot of laughs within the 88 minutes of this comedy. Barbara Hale, Bill Williams and Sam Levene are the best names for billing purposes, but emphasis on the laughability of the property may be utilized in advertising copy without hesitation. The picture figures to play better than it draws.

Bess Taffel's script, suggested by a story by Alexander Kenedi, concerns a young veteran arriving back from the war following hospitalization, a young girl arriving in New York to seek a career in art, and a glib crook arriving there after five years in the penitentiary. The three meet on a train under unusual and unusually amusing circumstances, and are drawn together again in New York, where the young man, mistakenly believing he has but two weeks to live, gets the crook to get him a $50,000 insurance policy on his life so that he can aid the struggling artist financially, from a cash advance, before death catches up with him. The plot takes many an unexpected turn, and a couple of expected ones, before it is all worked out satisfactorily, delivering generous helpings of laughter the while. Others in the cast are: Dan Tobin, Nestor Paiva, Max Willenz, Henry Kuley, Robin Raymond, Mary Young and Lanny Rees. Richard H. Berger produced for executive producer Jack J. Gross; H. C. Potter directed.

Running time, 88 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

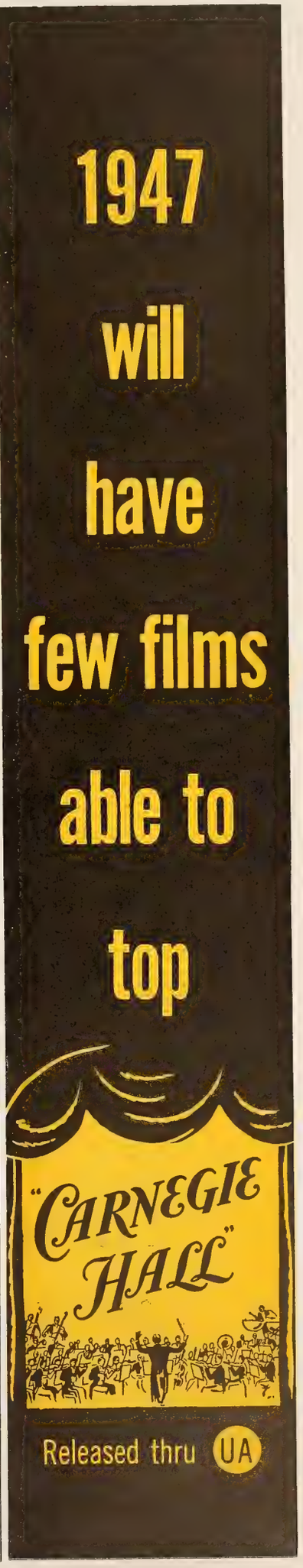
WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Col. Corrects Pressbook

Columbia is circulating a correction on its pressbook for "The Guilt of Janet Ames," Rosalind Russell-Melvyn Douglas feature, crediting special material used by Sid Caesar in the film to Caesar and Allan Roberts, rather than to Roberts and Doris Fisher, as stated in the pressbook.

Loew's Lobo Has School

Leocadio Lobo, in charge of the school for languages maintained by Loew's International Corp., has opened a Spanish school in which instruction in general conversational Spanish will be available to the general public. There will be special classes intended for beginners.



United Artists Corporation in an advertisement to the industry says*

*MOTION PICTURE HERALD
APRIL 12, 1947

● there are 9,000 motion picture exhibitors in the United States...

MOTION PICTURE HERALD
NET PAID CIRCULATION
TO EXHIBITORS

First three years* 1931-1933	11,118
Next six years 1934-1939	11,936
Next six years 1940-1945	11,680
The last year 1946	11,990

**Covering the consolidations by which Motion Picture Herald merged the circulation of the Herald—World and Motion Picture News, with all duplications eliminated*

"That's all there is—there isn't any more!"

MOTION PICTURE HERALD NEW YORK LONDON HOLLYWOOD

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

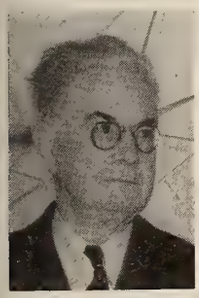
Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 78 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 1947 TEN CENTS

Hundreds Pay High Tribute To Edward Fay

Golden Anniversary Is Observed in Providence

PROVIDENCE, R. I., April 21.—Show business gave top billing tonight to Edward M. Fay, Providence theatre owner and "Dean of Rhode Island Showmen," at a golden testimonial dinner sponsored by the Independent Theatre Owners of Rhode Island.



Edward M. Fay

A special train from New York brought top leaders in the film industry to be among the 600 persons who crammed the spacious ballroom of the Sheraton-Biltmore Hotel for the testimonial to the man who began his career as a

(Continued on page 6)

No Monopoly: M. A. Lightman

MEMPHIS, April 21. — Blanket denials of monopoly and conspiracy charges were made here in Federal Court answers filed by M. A. Lightman, Sr., eight film companies and other defendants in the $2,910,600 suit brought against them by neighborhood theater owners.

Answers of Lightman, L. and L. theaters, Capitol Realty Co., Herbert Kohn, Edwin P. Sapinsley and Mose

(Continued on page 6)

Sen. Myers to Be At Ampa Dinner

Senator Francis J. Myers (Penna.) will be the principal speaker at the 20th anniversary dinner-dance of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers at the Hotel Astor here tomorrow night. Ampa president Rutgers Neilson announces that Myers will

(Continued on page 6)

AMG Gives Up Film Business

An agreement has been concluded with American Military Government officials whereby American film distribution in Germany will soon be demilitarized and turned over to the Motion Picture Export Association, a Berlin cable to MPEA here from Irving Maas, vice-president, discloses.

Details of the transfer, which is expected to become effective within the next eight weeks, were worked out in a series of conferences between Maas, Brig. Gen. Robert A. McClure, director of AMG's information control division, and members of his staff

Maas also disclosed that complete accord had been reached with top British Army heads and industry representatives for film distribution exchange between the American and British zones, under the terms of the Byrnes-Bevin bizonal pact earlier this year. The agreement embraces release op-

(Continued on page 3)

4 More MPF Field Meetings Are Held

The Motion Picture Foundation's area organization field meetings continue to progress. Yesterday, meetings were held at Albany, N. Y., Pittsburgh, Minneapolis and Des Moines

(Continued on page 6)

Single Selling But No Bids By Paramount

A policy of single sales without competitive bidding unless the bidding is ordered by another court has been adopted by Paramount in consequence of the U. S. Supreme Court's order postponing operation of a large portion of the New York Federal Court's industry decree, it was announced here yesterday by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution.

Decision on the sales procedure was made following sales and legal staff meetings held by Reagan last week, it was said.

Paramount will sell singly and "upon the merits" of each licensing situation, Reagan said.

Para.-Liberty Deal Blocked by Stevens

HOLLYWOOD, April 21. — Negotiations here for the sale of Liberty Films, Inc., to Paramount have broken down over the refusal of George Stevens to agree. The possibility of a resumption of talks is not believed remote, provided Frank Capra, William Wyler and Samuel J.

(Continued on page 3)

AFL to Call Studio Strike Peace Parley

Green Says All Twelve Unions Agree to Meet

WASHINGTON, April 21. — The American Federation of Labor today apparently opened the way for a settlement of the Hollywood jurisdictional strike.

Federation president William Green announced that the executive council had instructed him to call a conference of all unions involved in the Hollywood strike in the "very near future," at which the unions would be asked to work out machinery to settle the present strike and all future disputes.

Green said he would probably call the conference "within a month." He indicated the machinery would be based on the voluntary arbitration principle.

Green revealed that on the order of the council last February he had polled all 12 unions involved in the dispute as to whether they would welcome a conference to set up such machinery and stated that he had received favorable replies from all 12.

AAAA Hits Labor Bills

Condemning what it termed "the destructive and punitive nature of the labor legislation now pending in Congress," approximately 700 rank-and-file members of American Federation of Labor unions in the motion picture and allied entertainment field assembled at the 46th Street Theatre here yesterday afternoon to call upon President Harry S. Truman and Congress to defeat legislation aimed at outlaw-

(Continued on page 3)

Wright Talk Leaves NCA Men Dejected

MINNEAPOLIS, April 21.— Individual members of North Central Allied expressed disappointment over the Government's program for the industry, which includes complete divorcement, as outlined at the independent exhibitors' annual convention at the

(Continued on page 6)

Larsen Urges Industry Speed Television Work

By HAL TATE

CHICAGO, April 21.—Warning that the motion picture industry must act quickly if it is not to be relegated to a minor role in television, Paul J. Larsen, head of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers' division on television practices, disclosed here today that a committee representing all phases of the film business, currently studying the new field, will present their findings and recommendations to the Motion Picture Association on May 8.

In one of the opening talks of the SMPE meeting at the Drake Hotel, here, Larsen reported that the group has asked for Federal Communications Commission allocation for television channels for theatres on three occasions, and that Eric Johnston, MPA

(Continued on page 6)

800 Register for Coast Variety Meet

Hollywood, April 21. — Predicting an all-time attendance record for the 11th annual Variety Club's national convention here, May 13-17, W. H. Lollier, chairman of the registration committee, reported 808 registrations received, with Dallas leading with 122; Atlanta next with 97 and Pittsburgh third with 74.

Welcome to the convention was voiced in statements issued by 10 studio heads here yesterday.

Personal Mention

BEN BLOTCKY, manager of Paramount's Minneapolis exchange, this week is observing his 25th consecutive year with the company and its predecessor, Famous Players-Lasky.

•

LYNN FARNOL, Samuel Goldwyn Productions' director of advertising-publicity, and BEN WASHER, Eastern advertising-publicity representative, returned here yesterday from the Coast.

•

HAROLD DUNN, PRC's assistant sales manager, left New York yesterday for Dallas, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

•

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount's Western division sales manager, returned to Los Angeles yesterday from New York.

•

MURIEL KLEIN of the M-G-M home office sales department and IRVING PRAGER, were married here last Saturday.

•

JOHN WHITAKER, RKO Radio vice-president, has left New York for the Coast.

•

TERRY TURNER, RKO Radio exploitation manager, has left New York for Hollywood.

•

RAY MILLAND arrived here yesterday from the Coast en route to England.

•

IKE KATZ, Kay Film Exchanges executive, has been visiting Memphis from Atlanta.

•

BERNIE LEWIS, Story Productions publicist, has arrived from the Coast for a three-week stay in New York.

•

WILLIAM RICHARDSON, president of Astor Pictures of Georgia, has returned to Atlanta from a field tour.

•

DON REID, former Warners sales representative, has been named Florida representative for Columbia.

•

MAURICE BASS, M-G-M salesman, Memphis, has been transferred to Atlanta.

•

N. J. COLQUHOUN, Republic district manager in Dallas, has been visiting in Memphis.

•

EMERSON YORKE is in Chicago from New York to attend the SMPE meeting being held there this week.

•

ARTHUR LOEW, Loew's International president, has returned to New York from Europe.

•

JOHN WHITAKER, RKO Radio vice-president, has arrived in Hollywood from New York.

•

HAROLD DUNN, assistant PRC sales manager, left New York for Dallas last night.

•

SHIRLEY TEMPLE will observe her 19th birthday tomorrow.

Anglo-American In Rank Absorption

LONDON, April 21.—J. Arthur Rank's Associated British Pictures Corp. will absorb, effective May 3, the production activities of his Anglo-American Corp., and at the same time Albion Film Productions, owned by the Hyams brothers, whose former exhibition interests have been bought out by Rank, will enter distribution by acquiring physical distribution reissue rights to Anglo-American productions as well as reissue rights to 90 Universal Hollywood-made films.

Albion is said to have guaranteed continuity of staff employment to the present Anglo-American personnel.

The absorption of the Anglo-American interests is regarded here as a blow to American producer David O. Selznick's British interests, particularly since newly-arrived Selznick representative Milton Kramer is said to have been depending upon Anglo-American to handle distribution here of "Duel in the Sun."

Breen Hits "Search For Ease, Luxury"

PHILADELPHIA, April 21.—Joseph I. Breen, director of the Production Code Administration in Hollywood, deplored this generation's "frantic search for ease and luxury" at a dinner in the Warwick Hotel. Breen, a native Philadelphian, was one of the speakers at the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Cahill Club at Roman Catholic High School. It was attended by 150 graduates. Breen was a member of the class of 1905.

Breen Visiting Here

Joseph I. Breen, director of the Production Code Administration, arrived here from Philadelphia yesterday on what he described as a "social" visit. He said he will return to his Hollywood headquarters on Wednesday.

A. MacCunn Elected By Canadian Group

TORONTO, April 21. — Angus MacCunn, headoffice official of Famous Players Canadian Corp., has been elected president of the Musical Protective Society of Canada. The organization, composed of theatres, exhibitions, broadcasters and other music-users, reelected Col. John A. Cooper secretary-treasurer.

Among the directors are George H. Peters, Odeon Theatres of Canada, Arch H. Jolley, Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, and W. R. Ostrom, Dominion Sound Equipments, Ltd.

Cartoonists Charge Terrytoon Lockout

Terrytoons, producer of animated cartoons, locked cartoonists out of its New Rochelle plant yesterday morning after two years of negotiations with Screen Cartoonists Local No. 1461, AFL, the union charges.

Company executives could not be reached for comment.

To Meet on Ascap Order in NY Case

Attorneys for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and the group of independent theatre operators here charging restraint-of-trade in a treble-damage suit against Ascap will meet here today to start framing an order at the direction of Federal Court Judge John Bright denying Ascap's motion for dismissal of the case. Judge Bright called for the order at a hearing last Friday.

The New York group charges unreasonable monopoly and unreasonable discrimination against independent operators. Herbert Jacoby argued the case for Ascap on Friday and Harry S. Bodin and Herbert J. Fabricant represented the exhibitors.

Pre-trial examinations by both parties to the suit are to begin within 10 days.

Beller, Adams Named To UA Publicity Unit

Larry Beller and Caswell Adams have been named to the staff of the United Artists publicity department under Tom Waller, publicity manager, in a realignment announced here yesterday by Paul N. Lazarus, Jr.

Beller will serve as Metropolitan newspaper contact while Adams will function as a feature writer and researcher. John Ingram, with the department for the past two years, will handle wire services and syndicates. Rosellen Callahan will be in charge of fashions and women's features for newspapers and syndicates. Tess Michaels continues in charge of magazines and Lew Barasch remains as trade paper contact.

Fox - Intermountain Sets 'Cheyenne' Dates

DENVER, April 21.—First group of 24 day-and-date pre-release bookings of Warner's "Cheyenne," to follow the May 22 world premiere in Cheyenne, have been set by Fox-Intermountain Theatres. The entire two dozen openings are scheduled for Sunday, May 25, the circuit having deviated from customary policy in many of the situations in order to open the picture simultaneously on that day.

Kentucky To Fight Percentage Films

LOUISVILLE, Ky., April 21.—The Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners is studying the problem of percentage pictures, with some members suggesting organizing so thoroughly that no owner in the state would buy pictures on a percentage basis. Others have suggested sponsoring state legislation to curb the practice.

White in Theatre Deal

Arthur White has acquired a 50 per cent interest in the Pickwick Theatre at Greenwich, Conn., from the Crestwood Amusement Co. Edward Peskay operates.

2 Texas City Houses Wrecked in Disaster

DALLAS, April 21.—Details of the extent of damage in the disaster which leveled Texas City last week have confirmed expectations along Film Row here that the city's two theatres—the Jewel and Showboat—have been wrecked. The roof of the Jewel has been crushed and the Showboat has been demolished.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
RONALD COLMAN in
'THE LATE GEORGE APLEY'
Introducing PEGGY CUMMINS
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
TRAIL STREET
starring Randolph SCOTT • Robert RYAN
Anne JEFFREYS • George "Gabby" HAYES

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45

ON SCREEN
'CALIFORNIA'
In TECHNICOLOR
RAY MILLAND
BARBARA STANWYCK
BARRY FITZGERALD

IN PERSON
Joe BESSER
Bobby BREEN
ARREN & BRODERICK

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTEN • ETHEL BARRYMORE
in
"The Farmer's Daughter"
An RKO Radio Picture
A DORE SCHARY Production
RIVOLI
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.
B'way at 49th St.

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR
B'way & 45th St.

Alan Ladd
Gail Russell
William Bendix
in
"Calcutta"
A Paramount Picture

In Person
Duke Ellington
and His Orchestra
GOLDEN GATE QUARTETTE
COKE & POKE
Extra
BUCK & BUBBLES
Midnight feature nightly.
PARAMOUNT — TIMES SQUARE

CHARLES CHAPLIN
IN
"MONSIEUR VERDOUX"
A Motion Picture that will STARTLE you!
Released thru United Artists
BROADWAY THEATRE B'way at 53rd

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco. New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco. London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

N. J. Tax Now a Law Without Signature

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., April 21.—Resort motion picture theatres will be subject to a three per cent tax on admission fees within the next six weeks.

A "luxury tax" act has been adopted by the New Jersey Legislature and became a law without Gov. Driscoll's signature over the weekend. It provides for a tax on all amusements, hotel bills, liquor and a two-cent per pack tax on cigarettes.

Local communities of the resort variety only can apply the act after a local referendum. Thus Atlantic City is expected to be the only community in the state affected. The local referendum may come on June 3, after which the tax can be levied. There is no doubt but that it will be approved without a local fight, as it is backed by the powerful Republican party here controlled by State Senator Frank S. Farley, who pushed the act through the Legislature against the theatre men and taxpayers' association.

Compromise Seen On 3% Ohio Tax

COLUMBUS, O., April 21.—Compromise on the controversial proposal to repeal the state's three per cent admission tax is seen here after reports of growing sentiment among the 23-member House taxation committee for recommendation that the state continue to collect the tax and then distribute it to subdivisions of its origin.

At the last meeting of the committee, although there was no quorum present, a large majority of those attending were citing reasons why the state should not get out of the admission tax field.

J. C. Nugent, 69, Dies in New York

J. C. Nugent, 69, veteran actor and playwright and father of screen actor Elliott Nugent, died suddenly yesterday at the Lambs Club, here. Born in Niles, O., on April 6, 1878, Nugent went to Hollywood in 1929 in the triple capacity of actor, author and director for M-G-M. He appeared in numerous films, among them "A Star Is Born," "This Is My Affair," "It's All Yours," and "Give Me a Sailor." The elder Nugent and his son collaborated on a number of plays.

Funeral services will be held at the Frank E. Campbell Funeral Church, here, tomorrow noon.

Gueringer Dies in New Orleans at 61

NEW ORLEANS, April 21.—William H. Gueringer, 61, widely known retired theatre executive, died Sunday at his residence here following a brief illness. Funeral services were held this afternoon. Survivors are the widow, nee Stella Cox and a sister, Mrs. Bert Weaver.

Pallbearers were: E. V. Richards, Maurice F. Barr, G. J. Dureau, Leo Hirsch, Herbert Benson and L. C. Montgomery.

Horace Hougland, 46

NEW ORLEANS, April 21.—Horace John Hougland, 46, former theatre manager here and in Hattiesburg, Miss., and Beaumont, Texas, was killed in a highway accident near here on Friday.

Expect Defeat for Coast Labor Bill

Sacramento, Cal., April 21.—Passage of the secondary boycott (Hot Cargo) bill in the Senate recently by a vote of five to one, which would banish strikes and secondary boycotts from the California industrial scene, now moves over to the Assembly for consideration.

This measure, one of the most controversial on the state roster this session, is expected to be voted down in the Assembly, which leans heavily towards labor.

New Clearance Case Filed in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, April 21.—A new case has been filed here with the industry arbitration tribunal by R. A. Momm, operating the Ohio Theatre in Loudenville, against M-G-M. Asserting that clearance of seven days favoring Ashland and Mansfield, both in Ohio, over Loudenville is unreasonable, Momm does not indicate the relief he seeks. His theatre, he adds, can play M-G-M product 35 days after their availability.

He declares further that clearances granted by Paramount, Warner, 20th Century-Fox and RKO Radio to the Ohio Theatre is seven days after Mansfield, irrespective of Ashland.

Theatre Equipment Still Scarce: Neu

CHICAGO, April 21. — Oscar Neu, president of the Theatre Equipment Supply and Manufacturers Association, said today, following a weekend meeting of his board of directors here, that there is still a tremendous shortage of theatre equipment and that companies are months behind in orders.

The lack of steel and castings is causing hardships on theatre equipment manufacturers, Neu said, particularly since many new theatres are being built.

Harris Is Named by Wil-Kin in Charlotte

CHARLOTTE, April 21. — Frank Harris has been named branch manager of the Wil-Kin Theater Supply Co. office here, by S. B. Vandalden of Atlanta, general sales manager. Harris will succeed William P. White, who resigned recently.

Woods Elected in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY, April 21. — C. Clare Woods, district manager of Intermountain Theatres, Inc., has been elected president of the Salt Lake Motion Picture Club.

Dillenback Dies at 60

Funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon for Arthur O. Dillenback, 60, motion picture editor of *Household Magazine*. Dillenback, who has also been connected with *PIC* and an industry veteran, died of a heart attack here yesterday. Services will be conducted at the Fairchild Funeral Parlor, Manhasset, L. I.

Bogeaus Forms Unit With Ida Lupino

Arcadia Productions has been formed by Benedict Bogeaus in association with Ida Lupino to make one picture a year for three to five years starring Miss Lupino, Bogeaus announces here. The first is to be "Early Autumn," based on the Louis Bromfield novel, to go into production on June 15. The new company fits into the corporate pattern of Benedict Bogeaus Productions which has two additional pictures coming up this year, all for United Artists release.

Carl Leserman, executive vice-president of Benedict Bogeaus Productions, states he will leave here in the summer for England on sales matters, possibly including the establishment of an office in London. Bogeaus may may make a picture in England.

AAAA Protest

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing industry-wide and nationwide bargaining or the closed shop.

Convened by the legislative committee of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America, which is the parent union of 13 constituent organizations in the amusement industries, the unions' members also declared in their resolution that the "Four A's" would "welcome any attempts to remedy inequities and abuses which may have developed under present legislation, but will vigorously oppose any attempt to enact new legislation which will make impossible the legitimate functioning of labor unions." Target of the attack was H.R. 3020, the Hartley bill, which seeks to make unlawful industrywide negotiations and other so-called abuses nurtured under the National Labor Relations Act.

Speakers at the rally, which Lawrence Tibbett, chairman of the meeting and president of the American Guild of Musical Artists, emphasized was not a political meeting, included: Paul Dullzell, president of the Four A's and representing Actor's Equity; Senator Glen H. Taylor of Idaho; Henry Jaffe, Eastern legal representative of the Screen Actors Guild and counsel for AGMA and the American Federation of Radio Artists; Clayton Collier, AFRA president, and James C. Quinn, secretary of the Central Trades and Labor Council, AFL, of Greater New York. Also said to support the objective of the meeting was the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers local, Local No. 802 of the Musicians' union, and stagehands' local No. 1 of the IATSE.

CHICAGO, April 21.—Unanimously adopting a resolution protesting legislative efforts to "crush labor" and asserting that they will continue their efforts to protect gains labor has made, 300 members representing all entertainment unions met at the Selwyn Theatre here today to express intentions of recording their sentiments with individual Senators and Congressmen.

Represented at the meeting were: Actors Equity, Chorus Equity, American Federation of Radio Artists, Radio Writers Guild, Radio Directors Guild, American Guild of Variety Artists, American Guild of Musical Artists, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and the National Association of Broadcasting Engineers and Technicians.

Memphis Censor Cuts One, Bans Two

MEMPHIS, April 21.—The Memphis Board of Censors has announced that "The Macomber Affair" has been trimmed severely, following which Loew's Palace Theatre declared that the booking had been cancelled.

At the same time the board banned altogether two other films, "Destry Rides Again" and "When the Daltons Rode," which the Palace had planned to show as a double feature. Both films had been shown years ago in Memphis.

AMG To Demilitarize

(*Continued from page* 1)

erations in more than 2,000 theatres representing the combined outlets in the American and British zones.

The transfer of controls to MPEA will mark the complete divorcement of AMG from film activities in the American zone. While AMG will still exercise censorship on subjects released, MPEA will otherwise operate with full and unrestricted commercial license as it now does in Austria.

British representatives who attended the interzonal phases of the Berlin confabs included Michael L. G. Balfour, director of the British Information Services Control Commission; A. F. C. Brown of the London Control Office, FGT Rainbow of the Control Commission for Germany; M. Gumpel of ABC Pathe, London, and R. S. Bromhead, president of the British Commonwealth Film Corp.

During the past week, Maas was feted at a number of gatherings given in his honor. First of these was a luncheon for Maas by Balfour, held at the Embassy Club in the British sector, attended by all British film officers in Germany, and London industry representatives. He was also guest at a dinner given by Gen. McClure. Later in the week, Maas was host at a dinner held at the AMG officers' Mess in Berlin for key civilian members of AMG's headquarters and branch organizations. In toasting the occasion, Maas said: "I consider this an historic event, as it marks the first time in a decade that film men in Germany have been able to meet and discuss their business without the domination of the Reichsfilmkammer."

It is not unlikely that several of the more experienced personnel who had been operating in Berlin and key city branches under AMG will switch over to MPEA in similar capacities when the transfer becomes effective, the MPEA says.

Para.-Liberty Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

Briskin can persuade Stevens to join them under a four-way agreement stipulating that Liberty may not be sold unless it is uniformly agreed.

If Stevens should join Leo McCarey in Rainbow Production, however, the sale of the former's interest in Liberty, making a Stevens-MacCarey Association possible, would then permit resumption of the Paramount deal and perhaps hasten its completion.

Stevens' objection to Liberty's sale, which earlier was practically closed with M-G-M, stems from his desire to remain an independent producer.

Liberty's assets, including services of its producers and Briskin, who would join the Paramount studio staff, involves $5,000,000.

TOP "TARZAN



Night-and-Day Capacity Crowds Jam

GROSSES IN NEW YORK PREMIERE!!!

—and...

"TOP" TARZAN GROSSES ARE TO BE EXPECTED EVERYWHERE!

—says
HOLLYWOOD REPORTER



Broadway's Gotham Theatre!!!

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Tribute to Fay

(*Continued from page* 1)

boy violinist, playing solos at church concerts.

At 20, he was directing the B. F. Keith Theatre orchestra in Providence, and leading his own orchestra at society functions at Newport and Narragansett Pier. It was not until 1916 that he took over the old Union Theatre and renamed it Fay's.

Later, he opened another house in Rochester, N. Y., and a theatre in Philadelphia in 1919. In 1926, a $1,000,000 deal brought him control of five more Providence theatres.

That Providence was the first city in the country to get talking pictures at popular prices was another feather in the Fay cap. It was Fay who turned over a certified check for $20,000, plus a 10-cent weekly service charge for every seat in the Majestic Theatre, to bring sound films to the city for their popular priced theatre initial showing, on Christmas Day, 1926.

Tonight, his exploits in the show world were extolled and his contributions in the world of civic enterprise were saluted not only by his fellow showmen, but by state leaders.

Gov. John O. Pastore of Rhode Island headed a list of speakers who tipped their oratorical hats to Fay. The list included former Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, Basil O'Connor, chairman of the American Red Cross and president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis; the Rev. Frederick C. Foley, OP, president of Providence College, who offered invocation; Mayor Dennis J. Roberts, and Ben W. Brown, professor of Dramatics at Brown University. Former Federal Judge Ira Lloyd Letts was toastmaster.

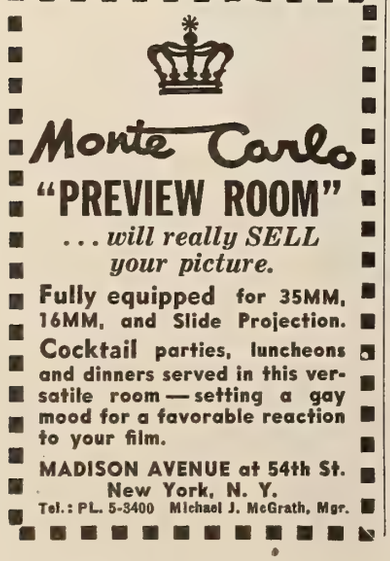
Fay was given a wall clock by the exhibitors of the ITO and another gift by Palestine Shrine.

Invited to the head table with the speakers were: Colvin W. Brown, director of General Aniline and Film Corporation; George L. Carrington, president of Altec; Jack Cohn, Columbia; James E. Dooley, Narragansett Racing Association; Eddie Dowling, actor-producer; Gus Eyssell, Radio City Music Hall; Simon H. Fabian, American Theatres Association; Judge John P. Hartigan, Federal district court; Benjamin Kalmenson, Warner Brothers; Malcom Kingsberg, RKO Theatres; Judge John C. Mahoney, U. S. District Court; Abe Montague, Columbia Pictures, Inc.; Edward Morey, Monogram; Dr. Joseph C. O'Connell; Herman Robbins, National Screen Service.

Also: William F. Rodgers, Loew's; George J. Schaefer, Enterprise Pictures; Sol A. Schwartz, RKO Theatres; William A. Scully, Universal-International; Meyer Stanzler, Independent Theatre Owners of Rhode Island; Joseph R. Vogel, Loew's; Richard F. Walsh, IATSE; Albert Warner, Warner Brothers; Earl C. Whelden, past potentate of Palestine Shrine; Judge Philip C. Joslin.

An added guest was George M. Cohan, Jr., son of Fay's old friend, George M. Cohan. George, Jr., made his vaudeville debut last week at Fay's Theatre, and earned the distinction of being the only act held over at Fay's for an extra week since Fay took over the theatre in 1916.

The committee which arranged the testimonial included Stanzler, general chairman; Fred Greene, Chester Currie, Henry Annotti, Joseph L. Carrolo, Albert Clarke, Pat Crawley, William Dietch, Ray Feeley, Jack Findlay, Albert Gould, Walton Harmon, Harry Horgan, Ed Reed, Len Richter, Ted Rosenblatt, Maurice Safner, Mel Safner, Henry Sperling, Russ Stapleton, Joseph Stanzler, Charles Tobey, Henry Tobin, Jack Toohey, Martin Toohey, Lon Vail, Jack Carroll, Joseph DiPesa, Charles Kurtzman and Art Moger.



Wright Talk

(*Continued from page* 1)

Nicollet Hotel here today by Robert L. Wright, special prosecutor in the film monopoly suit.

Wright was charged with being "cagey" and "extremely cautious" by exhibitors after the prosecutor's address, which was closed to the press.

Several small-town exhibitors remarked that the Government "fails utterly" to grasp the problem of the small exhibitor, and the Government's plan to regulate the industry suffered badly at the hands of questioners when Wright told them bluntly that "the Government program cannot guarantee protection" against wild-cat competition caused by competitive bidding and large-scale production.

With the exception of NCA executives, it was the consensus of opinion that small-town exhibitors were "let down" by Wright's failure to point up a bright picture for the future of the small theatre.

Ampa Dinner

(*Continued from page* 1)

discuss a subject of national importance.

Eugene Thomas, president of the Advertising Club of New York, will address the dinner on the ability of advertising to meet the challenge of new developments, such as television.

Loew vice-president Howard Dietz will be member-guest master-of-ceremonies at the affair and Neilson will preside. Other dais guests will include Charles R. Denny, Jr., chairman of the Federal Communications Commission; Will H. Hays, Barney Balaban, Ned E. Depinet, Jack Cohn, James R. Grainger, Charles Prutzman, Edward Morey, William J. German, Lloyd L. Lind, Francis S. Harmon, Fred Schwartz, Jack Levin.

Says No Monopoly

(*Continued from page* 1)

McCord, were filed by attorneys William Goodman and Herbert Glazer.

Kohn's answer stated that he was improperly made a defendant, that he has no interest in L. and L., that he is an employee of Malco., Inc., and owns a small portion of Malco stock.

In each answer it was stated that "damages accrued prior to August 22, 1943 are barred by the Tennessee Statute of Limitations." The plaintiffs charged that the conspiracy has been in effect since some time prior to 1930.

The answers repeatedly denied that Lightman "dominates and controls each of these companies and determines their policies and puts them into effect," the allegation being with regard to L. and L., Capitol Realty and Malco.

It was also denied that either Kohn or W. P. Zerilla are patrners in L. and L., which operates the Lamar, Linden Circle, Memphian, Capitol, Joy and Rialto. Violation of the Clayton and Sherman acts was denied, and it was stated that the theaters involved are not in interstate commerce, since no shipment of film prints from exchange to exhibitor croses the state lines insofar as the defendants are concerned.

Lightman also denied that he and Paramount Pictures, another of the defendants, operate the Malco Theater through Malco, Inc., or that he and Paramount together own any stock of Malco Theaters, Inc. He said that Malco, Inc., operates the theater, and he as president "uses his own best judgment and makes decisions for that company from the sole standpoint and in furtherance of the interests of Malco, Inc."

It was stated that clearance granted by distribution companies whereby some theaters get to exhibit pictures before others, was in most cases in practice "before the plaintiffs built their theaters and proceeded to try to take away the business and goodwill of defendant theaters that were already erected and in operation and adequately serving the public."

Answer of Paramount Pictures was filed with the Federal Court clerk by Lowell W. Taylor. The seven other answers were prepared by Frank Glankler, counsel for Columbia, Universal, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's, Warner Brothers, United Artists and RKO-Radio. All of the answers denied participation in any conspiracy to further the interests of any group of theater operators to the disadvantage of another.

Each took exception to Judge Boyd's decision of last February that the case would be tried as a single suit. They claimed that their various cases would be "prejudiced" unless separate trials were held. Loew's answer maintained that all clearances by that distributor in Memphis have been "reasonable." United Artists contends that it has "acted independently of all other persons, firms and organizations at all times in making contracts."

The plaintiffs are: Chalmers Collins, Nate Evans and Edward Cullins, operating the Idlewild Theater; Kemmons Wilson, Mrs. Ruby L. Wilson and Louie A. Weaver, operators of Airways Theater; Augustine J. Clanciola and Agnes M. Clanciola, Luciann Theater; James West, Hollywood Theater; E. R. Gillette, Bristol Theater; Mrs. Lebora Clanciota, executrix of the estate of M. Clanciola, Rosemary Theater.

Larsen Television

(*Continued from page* 1)

president; Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, and RKO Radio have now applied for the same frequencies recommended by SMPP.

Orton H. Hicks, a director of Loew's International Corp., discussed 16mm. films for overseas use, pointing out the importance of overseas markets to the industry, to the national economy and to national security. Hicks said that 40 per cent of motion picture revenue is derived from overseas markets and that if any part of it is lost domestic admission prices would have to be increased or the quality of product reduced.

The development of a special 16mm. projection and sound installation for the "theatre on rails," introduced recently by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, was the subject of a paper by John G. Bitel, of the Comprehensive Service Corp., New York. Medical and surgical studies through films were the subject of two papers, one presented by Mervin W. LaRue, Sr., of Chicago, and Mervin W. LaRue, Jr., of Bell and Howell, and the other by Dr. Paul H. Holinger and J. D. Brubaker of Chicago.

Other papers presented at today's afternoon session were: "A Microphone Tilting Device," by B. H. Denny and R. J. Carr of Paramount; "A New Sound Slidefilm Projector," by J. McWilliams Stone, of Operadio Manufacturing Co.; "Callier 'Q' of Various Motion Picture Emulsions," by John Streiffert, of Kodak Research Laboratories; "Remote Control and Automatic Focusing of Lenses," by H. C. Silent, Glendale, Cal.; and "Elimination of the Fire Hazard of Projectors Using Nitrate Film," by Lloyd Mannon, of the Control Engineering Corp., San Francisco.

MPF Meetings

(*Continued from page* 1)

for the purpose of selecting committeemen which in turn are required to elect their own area trustee.

At the Albany meeting, S. H. Fabian, head of Fabian Theatres, was elected trustee for the area, and S. U. Ullman, upstate general manager of Fabian, was elected general chairman of the executive committee. Named to the area committee were: Louis W. Schine, C. J. Latta, Herman Ripps, Edward Ruff, Leonard Rosenthal, Howard Goldstein, Henry Harris, John Sauerborn, Charles McCarthy, Arthur Newman, Fred Sliter, Charles A. Smakwitz, Neil Hellman, William Smalley and Guy Graves. Leonard Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., was the principal speaker at the meeting.

Nine members of the 17 ultimately to constitute the panel of the Foundation for the Kansas City area were elected at a meeting there at the Hotel Muehlenbach. These nine are scheduled to select eight more. The completed panel, which will meet later, will elect a chairman and a representative to the national meeting May 12.

At the Kansas City organization meeting, Edward G. Zorn, recently named chairman of the Chicago area committee, was the principal speaker. Jules Benedic presided. The nine committeemen already selected for the Kansas City area are: Arthur Cole, Sam Abend, J. A. Becker, Felix Snow, M. B. Cohn, Benedic, C. A. Schultz, R. R. Biechele and R. F. Withers.

N. Y. 1st-Run Grosses Off

New York first-run income for the most part came tumbling down this week with many Broadway showmen in agreement on reasons for the decline, stating a so-called "leveling off" of peak business as becoming more and more in evidence. Additionally, they point to the fact that the tail end of a lengthy run is not likely to bring R'd grosses (holdovers are being ofd mostly).

Among the exceptions, "The Macomber Affair" is strictly in the big-time money bracket at the Globe, while "Smash-Up" continues strong at the Capitol and the Astor's "Best Years of Our Lives" still runs high.

"Macomber" gave the Globe about $20,000 over Saturday and Sunday, indicating a huge $45,000 for the initial week. The second week of "Smash-Up," with Xavier Cugat's orchestra, at the Capitol, is good for a big $82,000, and "Best Years" figures to bring the Astor $36,000 in a 22nd week.

Chaplin Drop Beneficial

A drop in admission scales at the Broadway proved beneficial to "Monsieur Verdoux." Business picked up last week following a price decline from $1.80 to $1.50. The theatre wound up its first week with about $33,000, exclusive of the opening night's take, and going into a second week, drew an estimated $15,000 on Saturday and Sunday.

"The Farmer's Daughter" is holding a brisk pace at the Rivoli where a fifth week's gross of $38,000 is in view. With $28,000 evident for the third week of "The Two Mrs. Carrolls" at the Hollywood, there is not much room for complaint.

"Stallion Road," with Cab Calloway's orchestra is experiencing a fairly healthy third week, estimated to run to $44,000. "Alexander's Ragtime Band," with a stage show was sluggish in its return engagement at the Roxy where the income for the one-week run is placed at only $50,000. "Homestretch" will follow, beginning tomorrow.

'Egg' Following 'Apley'

"The Egg and I" comes to the Music Hall on Thursday following "The Late George Apley." The latter brought in $70,500 Thursday through Sunday and will conclude its fifth and final week with $106,500, which is about fair.

"Fear in the Night" is considerably off in a week at the Rialto, estimated at $6,500; it will be replaced on Friday by "Untamed Fury." A second week's gross of $20,000 is seen for "Trail Street" at the Palace, and that might have been better, too.

"My favorite Brunette," with Jimmy Dorsey's orchestra, is having a little trouble getting by its fifth and final week at the Paramount, which promised to bring $67,000. The show went over very big in previous weeks. "Buck Privates Come Home" in a second week at the Winter Garden should bring in about $17,500, while "Time Out of Mind" at the Park is just a little short of good with $6,000 looked for in a third week.

The fourth week of "Johnny O'Clock" is fair enough with $18,000 apparent at the Criterion; next film is "Odd Man Out," to bow in tomorrow. "Tarzan and the Huntress" is on its way to $12,500 for a third week at the Gotham, not startling but warranting another week's stay. Thus the film becomes the first "Tarzan" yarn to play four weeks at a New York first-run. At the Victoria, "The Adventuress" probably will gross about $11,000, close to average, for a third week. "The Jolson Story," which first stirred considerable box-office excitement at the Music Hall, will open at the Victoria on May 7.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

Guy Lombardo and orchestra heading the RKO Albee stage show, plus "Calendar Girl" on the screen is heading for a high figure, while "Boomerang" and the third week of "The Egg and I" are well in the upper brackets. The weather is warm. Estimated reecipts for the week ending April 22-25:

CALENDAR GIRL (Rep.)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (55c-65c-75c-85c-95c). Stage: Guy Lombardo and Royal Canadians, plus acts. Gross: $39,000. (Average: $30,000)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.40-$1.50) 6th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average at regular admission prices of 50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c; $10,000)
TUMBLEWEED TRAIL (PRC) and THREE ON A TICKET (PRC)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $1,700. (Average: $1,600)
ROLLING HOME (Screen Guild) and HOPALONG CASSIDY RETURNS (Harry Sherman Prod.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Gross: $1,100. (Average: $1,100)
BOOMERANG (20th-Fox)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $8,000)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $7,500)
PURSUED (WB)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week, on a moveover from two weeks at the Grand. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000)
TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)
CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,000)

BALTIMORE

"The Best Years of Our Lives" and "The Sea of Grass" appear to be drawing the big crowds. Less important shows are doing just about average, despite perfect weather. Some minor competition might be attributed to the new season's baseball opening. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 24:

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $26,500. (Average: $14,000)
SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,000)
ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue)—NEW (1,800) (28c-40c-50c-58c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000)
THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-47c-50c-58c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $16,500)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (Advanced admission prices: 75c-$1.25) 5th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average at regular admission prices of 35c-65c: $14,000)
THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE (RKO Radio)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-59c). With a stage show. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $17,500)
THE RED HOUSE (UA)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c) 3rd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,500)
I LIVE AS I PLEASE (Superfilms)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c) 2nd week. Gross: $2,750. (Average: $3,000)
MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-36c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,500)

ATLANTA

Atlanta's first-runs registered much better than the past few weeks. The weather was also good. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 20:

SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio)—FOX (4,661) (30c-50c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $13,000)
MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U-I)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (30c-50c). Gross: $8,600. (Average: $8,300)
SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I)—ROXY (2,446) (30c-50c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $5,900. (Average: $5,600)
IT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN TO A DOG (20th-Fox) and CITY WITHOUT MEN (Col. reissue)—CAPITAL (2,446) (30c-44c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,200)
THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,454) (30c-50c). Gross: $14,250. (Average: $15,000)

TORONTO

Two Toronto first-runs were in the fifth week with "The Jolson Story," and two others also had holdovers, all of which meant that steady business prevailed despite the belated coming of spring weather. Hockey playoffs were still counting as chief opposition. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 24:

THE CAPTIVE HEART (British)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $5,000)
THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,800)
DECEPTION (WB)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $14,300)
THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $13,800)
13 RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $17,300. (Average: $14,800)
THE JOLSON STORY (Ccl.)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $9,500)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,900. (Average: $11,400)
THE CAPTIVE HEART (British)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,800)

"Duel" Grosses $28,088 In 4 Days at Rochester

On the basis of box-office returns to date, indications are that David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" will top the gross of the same producer's "Gone With the Wind," Milton Kusell, general sales manager of the Selznick Releasing Organization, disclosed here yesterday.

In the past four-day weekend, "Duel" grossed $28,088 at Loew's Theatre in Rochester, N. Y., as compared with $20,870 for "Gone With the Wind" for the same period. At Loew's in Syracuse, "Duel" registered $19,655 while "Wind" tallied $17,866. Both houses will hold the production for a second week.

Release Film on Russia

March of Time's "The Russians Nobody Knows," concerned with how the Russians live, will be released in the U. S. May 16 and throughout the world as soon as translated commentaries can be scored. The subject will have uncensored material out of Russia.



CLAMOR

Boy... of the industry!



This kid's *got* what it *takes*... to get PATRONS!... The attention-getting GLAMOUR... of colorful ACCESSORIES...the scene-sampling *sock*...of seat-selling TRAILERS...an eye-and-ear-opening combination...that SHOUTS from your *Lobby!*... and YELLS from your *Screen!*...CLAMORING for *attention*...and *getting* it...from EYE-and-EAR-startled patrons...who come a-runnin' to your Box Office...to learn what the SHOUTIN's about...and eager to lay their *dough* on the line!...*Yep*...that's The PRIZE BABY...always ready to *raise-the-roof*... in behalf of your attractions...while *earning* a reputation as...CLAMOR BOY of the Industry!

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 79 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1947 TEN CENTS

Foundation Sets 10 New Area Meets

11 Meetings Completed; 20 Due Before May 12

With 11 area organization meetings already disposed of, the Motion Picture Foundation is now entering its final weeks of local organizational activity and has set 10 more meeting dates to be held between now and May 5. Some 20 additional meetings, as yet unannounced, also will be held prior to the scheduled May 12 national trustees organizational meeting.

The 10 new meetings, announced yesterday by Barney Balaban, chairman of the Foundation's temporary steering committee, are as follows: Boston, April 29, with M. J. Mullin and Sam Pinanski as temporary chairmen, and Balaban's aide, Lou Novins, as principal speaker; Buffalo, within the next two weeks, Max Yellen, chairman; Memphis, within the next two weeks, M. A. Lightman, chair-

(*Continued on page 6*)

ATA Would Block Ascap

The American Theatres Association will seek to discuss with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers the latter's projected program of revising theatre rate scales, Robert W. Coyne, ATA executive director, said here yesterday.

John G. Paine, general manager of Ascap, recently disclosed plans to con-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Thomas Drive Starts Today, His Birthday

The "Harry Thomas Nationwide Sales Drive" of Producers Releasing Corp. will get under way today, birthday of the PRC president, in whose honor the 18-week drive was set up.

In announcing the opening of the drive, PRC sales manager Ralph H. Clark listed titles of 33 pictures on which billings will count toward credits for prizes. District manager Max Roth is drive chairman.

Walsh Sees AF of L Move Aimed Mostly At Future Disputes

Hollywood, April 22.—Although today's meeting was described in a joint statement as "exploratory," the major producers and the committee representing Carpenters' Local No. 946 are understood to have made substantial progress in a two-hour conference, which was attended by labor managers of 10 studios and their counsel.

Emphasis in the forthcoming conference of American Federation of Labor unions represented in the Hollywood studios will be upon setting up machinery to settle future jurisdictional disputes, Richard F. Walsh, IATSE international president, said here yesterday, pointing out that the 12 groups involved had agreed to hold the talks

(*Continued on page 6*)

North Central Allied Re-Elects Officers

MINNEAPOLIS, April 22.—President Ben Berger, all other officers and the entire board were re-elected unanimously for another year at the close of the annual convention of North Central Allied at the Nicollet Hotel here today. The expected attack on film rentals, percentage pictures and other trade practices petered out.

Today's final sessions dealt largely with buying combines. Berger and Ted Bolnick, general manager and partner in the Berger Circuit, led the argument for a buying combine composed of every independent theatre in the Minneapolis film zone.

It became evident during the discussions that a merger of "three or four" of the buying combines now operating in Minneapolis is in the making, with a possibility that all independent buying may soon be tied in with membership in the NCA.

May Settle 3 Trust Suits in Chicago

CHICAGO, April 22.—Three antitrust suits asking for a total of $9,400,000 in triple damages have been postponed until early May. Although no confirmation has been received, it is understood that attempts are being

(*Continued on page 8*)

AMPA 30th Annual Banquet Tonight

The 30th anniversary of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers will be observed at its annual dinner-dance to be held this evening at the Hotel Astor, here.

The affair, which will be attended by several hundred from all branches of the industry, will mark the inauguration of incoming AMPA president Arnold Stoltz, who replaces retiring president Rutgers Neilson. Member-guest master - of - ceremonies will be Loew's advertising vice-president Howard Dietz; the principal speaker will be U. S. Senator Francis J. Myers. Many top industry executives will be on the dais.

Say 40% to Loew's In 'Duel' Booking

A 60-40 percentage agreement, the 60 being the distributor's end, was part of the Selznick Releasing Organization's deal with Loew's for the booking of "Duel in the Sun" in 39 New York area Loew houses, it is understood. Milton Kusell, SRO general sales manager, would neither confirm nor deny the report yesterday.

"Duel" will open on May 7 at Loew's Broadway "showcase," the Capitol, for an indefinite engagement, and on that date will open at 38 other units of the circuit, all for a one week run.

Meanwhile, Loew's is planning the most extensive campaign here in years, to include a "motorcade" consisting of a huge float with characters resembling those of the picture. The caravan will tour the Loew circuit around the city in a pre-opening campaign.

Memphis Censors Bar 'Duel' Showing

MEMPHIS, April 22.—"Duel in the Sun," which had been scheduled to open May 1 at Loew's State along with hundreds of theatres throughout the nation has been barred from Memphis and Shelby County by the Memphis censor board. The David O. Selznick production was banned after being viewed yesterday by Lloyd T. Binford, chairman of the censor board, and Mrs. Sid Law, a member.

William Kemp, manager of Loew's State, indicated no action would be

(*Continued on page 8*)

Joint US Drive On Collections Is Proposed

New York Group Seeks Single Charity Effort

A "National Health Week" during which theatres throughout the country would pass collection baskets in a joint campaign for national charitable and disease-fighting organizations will be promoted immediately by New York's Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, it was decided at a meeting of that group here yesterday.

The association, which comprises a large number of both affiliated and independent circuits in the Greater New York area, will approach the three national exhibitor organizations in an effort to have them join in the project, Rodney Smith, MMPTA executive secretary, said. Fred Schwartz, vice-presi-

(*Continued on page 6*)

MGM Meeting Set for Week

More than 115 of M-G-M's home office and field personnel will be on hand for a company sales conference which will get under way on Monday at the Hotel Astor when William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager opens the first of a series of sessions to last at least a week.

Among the home office group attending the sessions will be: Edward M. Saunders, Edwin W. Aaron, H. M. Richey, Howard Dietz, Silas F. Seadler, William R. Ferguson, Herbert Crooker, M. L. Simons, Maurice N. Wolf, Alan F. Cummings, Jay Eisenberg, Pincus Sober, Joel Bezahler, Charles F. Deesen, Irving Helfont, Leonard Hirsch, Paul J. Richrath, Jay Gove, Harold Postman, William

(*Continued on page 6*)

In This Issue

"Dishonored Lady" and "Cheyenne" are reviewed on page 7; "The Captive Heart" on page 8.

Key city grosses are also on page 7.

Personal Mention

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, and MURRAY SILVERSTONE, president of 20th-Fox International, and their wives, left Puerto Rico yesterday on their way back to the U. S. They are flying by way of Havana.

•

MANNY REINER, Latin American sales manager for the Selznick Releasing Organization, has arrived in San Juan, Puerto Rico, from New York on a business trip.

•

DONALD NELSON, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will leave Hollywood by plane for Chicago and New York today.

•

SAMUEL RHEINER, vice-president and general manager of Federal Films, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

MILTON CARD, assistant manager of the Olympia, Lynn, Mass., and MRS. CARD, are parents of a baby boy, their first.

•

GEORGE SCHER, account executive in the motion picture department of Foote, Cone and Belding, was married here Friday to BETTY LEE.

•

HAL ROACH left Hollywood by air yesterday to complete distribution conferences with United Artists here.

•

DR. HERBERT T. KALMUS, president of Technicolor Corp., is en route to New York from the Coast by train.

•

HERBERT WILCOX and ANNA NEAGLE are due in New York from London about May 21.

•

SI SEADLER, advertising manager of Loew's, has returned to New York from the Coast.

•

ERIC JOHNSTON, president of the Motion Picture Association, is in Spokane where he will spend a week.

•

RUBE JACKTER, assistant general sales manager of Columbia, has returned here from Florida.

•

BILL BRUMBERG, manager of Warners field exploitation staff, has left New York for Cheyenne, Wyo.

•

ARTHUR GREENBLATT, Monogram home office representative, has returned to New York from Atlanta.

•

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, United Artists president, and MRS. RAFTERY, are vacationing in Bermuda.

•

HERBERT J. YATES, Republic president, has left the Coast by plane for New York.

•

ADOLPH ZUKOR, II, willl return to New York from Atlanta this Saturday.

De-militarization Effective July 1

Conferences held in Berlin yesterday by Anglo-American film interests resulted in the setting of July 1 as the date for the beginning of free competitive film selling in the merged British-American-German film zones, according to a cable received here by the Motion Picture Export Association, from MPEA, vice-president Irving Maas.

Maas had conducted negotiations with the American Military Government in Germany which resulted in de-militarization of fims in the American zone and their being turned over to the MPEA.

Convention Dinner At Warner Studio

LOS ANGELES, April 22. — The "Humanitarian Awards Dinner" climaxing the first convention in the film capital of Variety Clubs International will be held on May 17 at the Warner Studios, with Jack L. Warner as host, it was announced here today by Charles P. Skouras, chief barker of Tent No. 25 Los Angeles. More than 1,000 from the United States, Canada and Mexico will be Warner's guests. Also attending will be 200 Los Angeles civic and motion picture industry leaders. Entertainment by Warner stars will follow the dinner.

Presentation of awards for outstanding humanitarian service during the preceding years is an established custom of the Variety Clubs at their annual conventions. In the past, the organization has honored Evangeline Booth, Sister Kenny, and the discoverer of penicillin, Sir Alexander Fleming. This year's award will be made into a motion picture for the first time.

Deneau Ends Schine Tie to Join SRO

ALBANY, N. Y., April 22.—Sidney Deneau has resigned as assistant to Louis Schine, secretary-treasurer of the Schine Circuit, to accept a position in New York under Milton Kussell, general sales manager of Selznick Releasing Organization. Deneau who succeeded Lou Lazar to the Schine post eight months ago, said one reason for his resignation is to be near his wife who is ill in New York.

Services for Mrs. Cullen

NEWARK, April 22.—Funeral services for Mrs. Fanny Cullen, mother of Mike Cullen, Loew's Western division manager, will be held here tomorrow at the Smith and Smith Funeral Home. Mrs. Cullen died Sunday in Columbus, O., where she made her home.

Eagle-Lion Sets 14 For Next Season

Eagle-Lion's present production schedule calls for 14 pictures in 1947-48 season, Bryan Foy, E-L Hollywood production head, disclosed yesterday through the company's New York office.

Of these, Foy reports, seven are now before cameras, and arrangements are already underway to start filming seven others.

Already completed by E-L are "It's a Joke, Son!" "Lost Honeymoon" and "Repeat Performance." The first two are now in release, and the third is scheduled for release shortly.

Now in production are: "Red Stallion," with Ben Stoloff as producer and Lesley Selander as director; "Out of the Blue," being produced by Isadore Goldsmith and directed by Leigh Jason; "Love from a Stranger," James Geller, producer, and Richard Whorf, director; "Captain Casanova," with Leonard Picker as producer and Roberto Gavaldon, drector; "Clementine," being produced by Aubrey Schenck and directed by Jason; "Corkscrew Alley," Schenck as producer-director; "Missouri Legend," with Joseph Fields as producer and Jason as director.

Yet to go before cameras are: "Career in Manhattan," to be produced by Ben Stoloff; "Rainbow," Schenck, producer; "New Girl in Town," Schenck, producer; "Kenny," Schenck, producer; "Catch Me Before I Kill," Schenck, producer; "Prince Valiant," Picker, producer; "Montana," with Foy as producer. Directors have yet to be named for these productions.

Rose Counter - Claim To Mason: $1,760,000

Entering a counter-claim for $1,760,000, David Rose, producer, yesterday filed a general denial of charges leveled by James Mason, British film star now in New York, in a proceeding begun in U. S. District Court here by Mason to determine whether a reputed contract between him and Rose exists. Rose, through counsel, further asks for an injunction to prevent Mason from acting in either films or on the stage.

The denial and counter-claim brings to New York a suit filed by Rose last year in California.

Canada Group Asks Theatre Act Change

TORONTO, April 22. — The 27th annual meeting of the Provincial Chapter, Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire, has endorsed the petition of its executives to the Ontario government which asked for a revision of the Theatres Act to permit the legal admittance, without a guardian, to film theatres of children over 14 years of age. The present age limit is 16 and the organization contends that it is better to permit juveniles to go to shows than to allow them to loiter on the streets.

Newsreel Parade

PRESIDENT Truman's address and the aftermath of the Texas disaster are among major stories in current newsreels. Other items include sports, humor and a miscellany of human interest stories. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 68—President Truman says prices must be brought down. Texas City digs out from devastating blast disaster. Windup of British Royal Family tour of South Africa. Mama dog who lost her litter turns to "cat-napping." Sports: Wood memorial, Boston marathon. Stanley Cup final.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 266—Texas City aftermath. Truman warns nation of dangers in high prices. S. S. *Queen Elizabeth* aground. Moscow hit by floods. Dervish stamps. Mickey Rooney aids vaccination drive. New idea in style shows.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 69—Hockey's world series. Toronto wins Stanley Cup. Morocco's Sultan rallies Arabs. Boy, boy, boy meets girl, girl, girl (triplet convention.) Truman calls for slash of prices. Texas City aftermath.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 71—Sultan snubs France. Nazi death camp bosses on trial. Lost Czech children see parents. Machine harnesses sun's power. Texas City aftermath.

UNIVERSAL, No. 32—Scenes of death and destruction in the wake of Texas City disaster. Truman urges price cuts in address to newspaper publishers. Eggs bounce off rubber mat when dropped from 10-story New York building. Korean wins Boston marathon. Stanley Cup trophy.

House Unit Probes State Dep't Films

WASHINGTON, April 22.—An openly hostile House committee today started an investigation of the activities of the State Department's Office of International Information and Cultural Affairs. Domestic branches of the OIC were on the griddle today with the international motion picture division and other overseas operations scheduled for tomorrow.

Assistant Secretary of State William Benton, who testified before the sub-committee of the House committee on expenditures in executive departments, repeatedly disclaimed charges that State Department appropriations were being used for propagandizing.

Expenditures of all divisions of the State Department will be investigated by the Committee. According to Rep. J. Edgar Chenoweth, chairman, the OIC was chosen to lead off the hearings because in a few years "it mushroomed from nothing to a $20,000,000 budget."

'Vendetta' Promotion

Lincoln Quarberg, publicity-advertising director for Howard Hughes' California Pictures, has left New York for the Coast after huddles with Harry Gold, distribution vice-president here, and Alec Moss, Eastern publicity chief, to blueprint the promotional campaign for "Vendetta," forthcoming Hughes production.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



with Phyllis Thaxter • Edgar Buchanan • Harry Carey • Ruth Nelson • Robert Armstrong
Screen Play by Marguerite Roberts and Vincent Lawrence
Based on the Novel by Conrad Richter • Directed by ELIA KAZAN • Produced by PANDRO S. BERMAN • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

YOU'LL FIND A 4-LEAF CLOVER IN M·G·M's SEA OF GRASS!

Preceded by a tremendous magazine, newspaper, radio and truck poster campaign "The Sea of Grass" will reach an estimated total of 1,803,726,008 impressions throughout the nation! Are you a partner in "The Sea of Grass Land Company"?

Competitive Bidding Sought by Nomikos

CHICAGO, April 22.—Van A. Nomikos, Illinois Allied vice-president, has asked for competitive bidding for two of his theatres, the Yale and the Lincoln.

Nomikos said that four companies, M-G-M, Paramount, Universal-International and 20th Century-Fox, have replied they would set up competitive bidding for the Yale Theatre (replies were believed to have been received prior to the last Supreme Court ruling). The Yale now plays in the second week of general release and has asked for competitive bidding against the Lido, owned by the Manta and Rose circut, which plays in "B" week.

Nomikos has notified all the majors that he is desirous of playing in "C" week at his Lincoln Theatre instead of the second week of general release. To date, no answers have been received by Nomikos from the distributors. Competing houses with the Lincoln, according to Nomikos, are Balaban and Katz's Belmont Theatre, which plays in "B" week, and two Essaness houses, the North Center and the Biograph. The former plays in "C" week and the latter in the first week of general release.

Skolsky Joins E-L

Milton Skolsky has joined Eagle-Lion's expanding home office advertising staff as a writer under press book editor Jonas Arnold. Skolsky is a brother of newspaper columnist Sidney Skolsky.

Managers Guild and Bronx Circuit Sign

A contract providing for increases in pay, vacations, sick leave, a reduced 50-hour work-week and arbitration has been signed by the Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild and Combined Bronx Amusements, Inc., ending a strike of managers and assistants at the circuit's Allerton, Beach, Kraft, Melba and Park theatres in the Bronx and Alpine in Manhattan, George Dunn, Guild president, reported here yesterday. Arbitrator in the dispute was Solomon Cheser, National Labor Relations Board examiner.

Officials of Combined Bronx Amusements were unavailable yesterday for comment on the signing of a contract.

Two 'Carnegie Hall' Benefits on May 1

United Artists' "Carnegie Hall" will have two special benefit previews on Thursday evening, May 1, at the Winter Garden and Park Avenue theatres at $10 a seat, for the New York Foundling Hospital and the New York Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra Pension Fund. Proceeds from the Winter Garden showing will go to the hospital, and those from the Park Avenue to the Philharmonic.

Public showings of the film will begin at both theatres the next day.

'Dillinger' Reissue

HOLLYWOOD, April 22.—"Dillinger" will be reissued on May 29, following current Chicago showings. The film was originally released in 1945.

M-G-M TRADE SHOW

NEW YORK — NEW JERSEY TERRITORY ONLY

"GONE WITH THE WIND"

M-G-M SCREEN ROOM

630 NINTH AVENUE

MONDAY, APRIL 28

9:30 A.M. also 2:30 P.M.

David O. Selznick's production of Margaret Mitchell's Story of the Old South, "Gone With the Wind" • In Technicolor • Starring Clark Gable as Rhett Butler Leslie Howard • Olivia de Havilland • and presenting Vivien Leigh as Scarlett O'Hara • A Selznick International Picture • Directed by Victor Fleming Screen Play by Sidney Howard • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Masterpiece Release • Music by Max Steiner

Seek Solution of Swedish Film Bars

WASHINGTON, April 22. — The special problem of motion pictures in the light of the recently imposed Swedish import restrictions will be worked out in the general rules evolved from discussions here, according to Dr. Dag Hammarskjold, financial advisor to the Swedish Government.

The Swedish import restrictions are temporary, Hammarskjold said, and are aimed at establishing a reasonable degree of balance between Sweden's imports and exports.

Hammarksjold is a member of the Swedish trade delegation which opened discussions late last week with Willard Thorpe and other State Department officials. Their purpose is to clarify the import restrictions which Sweden imposed last March 15 and which the United States government protested.

Owner Fined $1,000 On Copyright Charge

LOS ANGELES, April 22.—William "Scotty" Brown, operator of Embro Pictures Co., was fined $1,000 yesterday by Federal Judge William C. Mathes after he pleaded nolo contendere to an information charging copyright infringement in connection with the renting of 39 prints of major films in 16mm. form.

The case resulted from an investigation by the F.B.I., with the cooperation of Sargoy & Stein, New York copyright counsel for major companies.

Navy Offers Films Of Byrd Voyage

WASHINGTON, April 22. — Producers have been invited by the Navy to see and use some 75,000 feet of film of the current Byrd Antarctic expedition. The footage constitutes the first shipment received from the expedition, according to Comdr. Richard Winn, in charge of the Navy's motion picture section, who invites inquiries concerning its use.

Included in 60,000 feet of black and white is 35mm. and 15,000 feet in color 16mm. The Navy Department recently held screenings of the polar films.

London to Produce South Africa Film

JOHANNESBURG, April 17 (By Airmail).—London Film Productions will produce in South Africa, at a cost of £250,000 ($1,000,000), a Technicolor feature dealing with South African history and with the diamond and gold industries as background.

Sir Alexander Korda will direct the film for which a script is being prepared by R. C. Sheriff, author of "Journey's End." Part of the feature will be filmed in Britain.

Diener Joins UA

David E. Diener has joined United Artists' home office advertising department as copywriter, it was announced here yesterday by Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., advertising-publicity director. Diener, who will work under Francis Winikus, advertising manager, served as a captain in the Signal Corps during the war, and prior to joining UA he was a member of Republic's advertising staff.

Paramount in Tieup With Chesterfield

An exploitation tieup has been completed by Paramount with Chesterfield whereby the studio's top male stars and the pictures they appear in will be publicized in a series of full-page advertisements in 3,200 papers in the U. S. with a circulation of 40,000,000.

The first will be Bob Hope and "My Favorite Brunette" the first week in May, followed by Bing Crosby and "Welcome Stranger" the third week in May and Ray Milland and "The Trouble With Women" the last week in June.

U-I Claims Record Of 7 N. Y. 1st-Runs

With the opening of "Odd Man Out", at Loew's Criterion, today; "The Egg And I", at the Radio City Music Hall, tomorrow, and "The Captive Heart," at Studio 65, on Saturday, Universal-International claims a record of seven features playing at New York's first-runs.

"Smash-Up" is current at the Capitol, "Buck Privates Come Home" is at the Winter Garden, "Time Out Of Mind" is at the Park Avenue, and "This Happy Breed", is playing at the Little Carnegie.

New Variety Tent Launched in Miami

MIAMI, April 22.—Industry members here and at Miami Beach have applied for a local Variety Club charter, announces R. J. O'Donnell, national chief barker. Headquarters for the new Tent No. 33 will be in the Royal Theatre Building here. Its organizers and first crew are:

George Hoover, chief barker; Mitchell Wolfson, first assistant chief barker; Richard Sachsel, second assistant; Al Weiss, property master; Sidney Meyers, dough guy; and Tom Jefferson, Arthur Schwartz, Mark Chartrant, Sonny Shepard, Herb Ellisberg and Jack Miller, canvasmen.

To Distribute 'Seeds' To Canada Theatres

WASHINGTON, April 22.—The U. S. War Department's "Seeds of Destiny," winner of an Academy Award, will be distributed commercially in Canada by the Canadian Film Board.

The board has been distributing the film in the 16mm. field and now will handle it in the 35mm. field as well. It will be tied in with a Greek war relief drive sponsored by Canada.

Jury Sees 'Dictator'

Examination of Konrad Bercovici by Louis Nizer, his counsel, and cross-examination by Louis Frohlich, attorney for Charles Chaplin, held the spotlight yesetrday on the second day of the writer's $5,000,000 damage suit against the producer in New York Federal Court. In the morning Judge Harold P. Burke and the jury adjourned to the Art Theatre to view "The Great Dictator," subject of the suit. The trial will resume this morning.

Waugh Resigns Post

MEMPHIS, April 22. — Howard Waugh, veteran showman and former zone manager for Warner Theatres in Tennessee, has resigned as manager of Fairgrounds Amusement Park and Linden Avenue Amusement Park for the city.

It's here—a new convenience on the C&O

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Certify AFL Union At News of the Day

Preparatory talks on a contract covering employes at M-G-M's News of the Day were held here yesterday following certification of the Motion Picture Home Office Employes Union, Local No. H-63, IATSE, as collective bargaining agent. Full-scale negotiations on the union's demands for a 20 per cent increase, or a minimum rise of $8, announced last week by the executive board in connection with seven pacts being reopened for wage discussions, will begin with M-G-M Friday, according to a union spokesman.

With the certification of the News of the Day unit, the IATSE local has extended its coverage to three newsreel companies, the others being Universal and Paramount.

At the same time, it was disclosed that the union will start talks with Warner this morning on a cost-of- living increase.

An agreement calling for individual adjustments of inequities for employes of Robbins, Feist and Miller, music publishing subsidiary of M-G-M, will probably be signed next week after four weeks' discussions. General increases for employes of the music companies, according to the union official, are tied to the pact to be negotiated with Harms, Remick and Witmark next month.

AFL Union Signs Pact With Coast Exchanges

LOS ANGELES, April 22.—An increase of 15 per cent and a retroactive increase of 12½ per cent covering the period from last Oct. 19 to today, form the basis of a new contract concluded between Los Angeles film exchanges and the Office Employes International Union, AFL. The new agreement will expire one year from today. A three-man committee from the union's New York headquarters negotiated the pact.

McHenry Rejoins Small

HOLLYWOOD, April 22.—Murphy McHenry has rejoined Edward Small Productions as advertising-publicity director.



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SIMPP Asks PCC To Aid Texas City

HOLLYWOOD, April 22.—The Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers' public relations advisory committee today proposed methods by which the industry could help the Texas City disaster victims. It recommended that the Permanent Charities Committee send funds recently rejected by the Red Cross, and suggested an all-star radio show to solicit public donations. It also proposed that the industry send stars on a train tour of principal cities.

Response to the proposals was not immediately available.

New Siritzky Quarters

Siritzky International Pictures, distributors in the U. S. of French-language films, has new quarters in the Fisk Building, here. Presently located in the Paramount Building, the company will move to the Fisk on May 15.

Walsh Sees

(*Continued from page* 1)

on that basis, without reference to the current strike on the Coast.

As reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, William Green, AFL president, in announcing plans for the conference, said the union leaders assembled there would be asked to seek a means of ending the present dispute as well as to cope with any which might arise henceforth.

Although Walsh, following the Green announcement, yesterday did not rule out the possibility that the strike might come up at the meeting, he was emphatic in declaring that the "IA" and the other unions involved had consented only to establish machinery for handling jurisdictional problems arising after a settlement of the existing controversy has been reached. Moreover, he added, each of the 12 international presidents had specified that such machinery must be satisfactory to his own union's membership.

The coming conference, Walsh said, is the outgrowth of mediation efforts on the part of the Screen Actors Guild, a committee from which urged the step at the last AFL convention and at a subsequent meeting of the executive council. A date and place for the talks have not yet been set, but Green is on record as intending to call the session "within a month."

The present studio strike, Walsh has stated several times recently, springs from the failure of William Hutcheson, head of the Carpenters' union, to abide by the terms of an arbitration decision which preceded it.

ATA, Ascap

(*Continued from page* 1)

sult theatremen in an effort to establish an "equitable formula" for establishing a new music licensing fee structure that would bring more revenue from exhibition.

Although Coyne has yet to be approached on this, he said he would be receptive to an Ascap bid to negotiate but made it clear his motive would be to hold the line on revenue yielded annually by exhibitors.

Herman Levy, general counsel for the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, and Abram Myers, chairman and general counsel of Allied States, already have expressed opposition to Ascap's plan.

Rank Widens Hold On Eire Exhibition

By T. J. M. SHEEHY

DUBLIN, April 17 (By Airmail).—J. Arthur Rank's first major phase in plans for acquiring a controlling position as an Eire exhibitor have been completed.

Metropole and Allied Cinemas and their wholly-owned subsidiary companies, Dublin Kinematograph Theatres, Ltd., the Phibsboro Picture House, Ltd., and the Associated Picture Houses will be centrally controlled and operated under the one company, Odeon (Ireland) Ltd.

Rank's British companies now control five of Dublin's eight first-run houses and a large section of the best Dublin suburban houses. Since Dublin represents about 80 per cent of the total Eire box-office returns, this gives Rank a commanding position, which is further strengthened by his two first-run houses each in Eire's only other large cities, Cork and Limerick. The board of Odeon (Ireland) now consists of Rank, chairman; Maurice Elliman, vice-chairman; Louis Elliman, managing director; John Henry Davis and George Acheson.

Joint Drive

(*Continued from page* 1)

dent of Century Circuit is head of the MMPTA.

Smith added that if New York owners fail to secure support of national exhibition for the movement within 30 days, MMPTA will consider sponsoring a local "Health Week." The campaign would be conducted next fall if a countrywide agreement is reached, he said.

Shortly after the war, the idea of a joint campaign was advanced and met with general approval. It was abandoned, however, when the Red Cross and March of Dimes refused to participate, declaring they would lose their individual identification. If both persist in this attitude, beneficiaries would be all other groups, such as the National Heart Foundation, American Cancer Committee, among many.

Another subject taken up at yesterday's session, Smith disclosed, was a move by the city to have exhibitors whose programs include vaudeville, replace New York City firemen with uniformed employes. A fireman on constant watch in houses where more than films are offered is compulsory under an existing New York ordinance. The City's efforts to cut its budget resulted in the proposal that city firemen's theatre detail be ended. An MMPTA committee will speak at an exhibitors' hearing to be conducted by Fire Commissioner Frank J. Quayle, tomorrow.

MGM Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

B. Zoellner, Max Wolff, Max Weinberg.

There will also be two master bookers, Parke D. Agnew and Thomas Grady, in addition to the following field auditors: John J. Ash, Charles Bell, Oliver Broughton, Carl Gentzel, Willard Gillian, Irving Margolin, Charles Scholo, Arthur Sklar, Arthur Sterling and Edward Urschel.

Gamble Gets Keith's In Indianapolis Deal

INDIANAPOLIS, April 22. — Keith's Theatre here will be turned over to Ted Gamble after the recent purchasers, Arthur Steel and the Harold Mirisch group, take possession on April 30, according to word received here through Steel from New York.

Steel Associates bought Keith's in March from Sam Roberts and Nick Boila for a reported $250,000. Gamble entered the local picture by his recent purchase of Monarch Theatre's half-interest in the Greater Indianapolis Amusement Co., which operates the Indiana, Circle and Lyric Theatres.

Strike Stymies Owners

SEATTLE, April 22.—The continuing phone strike is now forcing many out-of-town exhibitors to make plane trips to Seattle to book pictures. E. W. Landry of the Pix Theatre in Cheney was the first of several to make such flights.

M. P. Foundation

(*Continued from page* 1)

man; Omaha, May 5, Leo Wolcott and A. H. Blank, chairmen; Pittsburgh, before the end of April, M. A. Silver, chairman; Seattle, May 5, I. M. Hone, chairman; New Haven, within the next two weeks, I. J. Hoffman and Dr. J. B. Fishman, chairmen; New Orleans, within the next two weeks, E. V. Richards, chairman; Oklahoma City, within the next two weeks, C. B. Akers, chairman; Washington, April 24, Sidney Lust. Carter Barron and John Payette, chairmen, and Novins as principal speaker.

Yesterday a meeting was held in Dallas under the chairmanship of Karl Hoblitzelle. At a meeting in Albany, N. Y., on Monday, Simon H. Fabian was elected national trustee and Saul J. Ullman was named permanent chairman of the area committee. Results of the meeting in Des Moines have not yet reached Foundation headquarters.

Following meetings already have been held: Charlotte, H. F. Kincey elected national trustee and chairman; Chicago, Arthur Schoenstadt elected national trustee, Edward G. Zorn, chairman; Detroit, 11 were elected to the area committee which will shortly elect a trustee and chairman; Kansas City, nine were elected to the committee, with a trustee and chairman to be named shortly. Minneapolis, committee elected, trustee and chairman to be named shortly; Salt Lake City, committee elected, trustee and chairman to be named shortly; St. Louis, Fred Wehrenberg, trustee, and Joseph C. Ansell, chairman; Chicago, 17 elected to committee.

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Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

PHILADELPHIA

"Sea of Grass" and "California" are giving generally waning business a needed boost. "Best Years" continues strong. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 22-24:

SMASH-UP (U-I)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80cc-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $13,800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average at regular prices of 54c-94c: $6,600)

SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $35,800. (Average: $21,000)

BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days, with vaudeville starring Spike Jones. Gross, 6 days, $40,000, and CALIFORNIA (Para.). Gross, 1 day: $4,500. (Average: $31,700)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $24,000)

THE IMPERFECT LADY (Para.)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $9,500)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week, 2nd run. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,200)

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $38,500. (Average: $29,500)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PIX (500) (Advanced admissions of: 90c-$1.80) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 8th week. Gross: $18,700. (Average: $27,000)

THE RED HOUSE (UA)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,900. (Average: $12,700)

PITTSBURGH

"The Best Years of Our Lives," in its seventh week at the Fulton, and the "Song of Scheherazade," which opened strongly in the J. P. Harris, are the only first-runs to do better than average business at this time. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 24:

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—FULTON (1,700) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.40) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average at regular prices of 40c-70c: $9,700)

SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,000)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $25,000)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,500)

JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Harris. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $3,200)

STALLION ROAD (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE LOCKET (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $15,000)

SALT LAKE CITY

Sunny spring weather here has been a boon to grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 24:

NO TIME FOR COMEDY (WB reissue) and CITY FOR CONQUEST (WB reissue)—CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,800)

SMASH-UP (U-I)—CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $13,600)

BLIND SPOT (Col.) and SILVER STALLION (Mono. reissue)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c). With vaudeville. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,700)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RIALTO (1,300) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.50) 3rd week. Gross: $6,700. (Average at regular prices of 20c-75c: $5,900)

STALLION ROAD (WB)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55cc-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,800)

THE MIGHTY McGURK (M-G-M)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $7,900. (Average: $5,900)

MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,300)

Reviews

"Dishonored Lady"

(Hunt Stromberg—United Artists)

HEDY LAMARR, Dennis O'Keefe and John Loder are the marquee names provided by this Hunt Stromberg presentation, which recounts with full melodramatic emphasis the woeful story about a highly successful business woman whose long record of promiscuous love affairs, born of a bewildered seeking for pleasure, has brought her to grips with her conscience and to the brink of suicide. Miss Lamarr's presence plus the fact that Miss Lamarr and Loder are husband and wife in real life, are factors which combine to spell considerable box-office promise for this one. But it is a picture which will appeal mostly to women patrons.

Miss Lamarr as the erring, ultimately regenerated lady; O'Keefe, playing a young medical researcher with whom she finds genuine love; and Loder, as her wealthy former paramour who persists in menacing her happiness with O'Keefe, are handicapped by roles which are hardly conducive of realistic portrayals. However, under the able direction of Robert Stevenson, they have made the characters they portray interesting at least—accomplishments which would be out of the reach of less experienced performers.

It is the minor characters in Edmund H. North's screen story, based on a play by Edward Sheldon and Margaret Ayer Barnes, who emerge more as living, breathing people. Most outstanding is Morris Carnovsky in the role of a psychoanalyst who guides Miss Lamarr away from her loose living and who cultivates in O'Keefe the understanding he needs to continue to love her when her past is exposed at her trial for the murder of Loder. At a tense, climactic moment, Loder's secretary, a blackmailing wastrel, played by William Lundigan, is revealed as the real murderer and the fadeout finds the lovers in each others' arms with a happy future in view. Paul Cavanaugh, Natalie Schafer, Douglass Dumbrille and others complete the cast. Jack Chertok's production is handsomely mounted and well fortified with excellent camera work.

Running time, 85 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, May 16.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"Cheyenne"

(Warner Brothers)

Hollywood, April 22

ALL the trappings of the so-called "super Western" are to be found in Robert Buckner's production, which stars Dennis Morgan, Jane Wyman, Janis Paige and Bruce Bennett. Stagecoach robberies occur so regularly that it seems a wonder Wells-Fargo is able to keep going at all; men are shot right and left, in cold blood and hot; and the stock Western characters—the dance-hall girl, the sheriff—romp with great gusto through the plot of a screenplay by Alan LeMay and Thames Williamson, from a story by Paul I. Wellman.

There are a couple of new twists in the story, but nothing that will tax the imagination of an audience attuned to the stock Western plot. A gambler—Dennis Morgan—makes a deal with a peace officer who possesses certain evidence against him. The gambler is to track down the thief who has been getting away with a lot of Wells Fargo gold, in return for which the peace officer will forget all about the undisclosed, but presumably illegal, incident in Morgan's past.

It doesn't take a master mind to figure out who is responsible for the robberies, nor does it take a flight of fancy to foresee that the criminal will die, not only to pay for his crimes, but to leave his wife free to marry Morgan. Miss Wyman is charming in the role of the wife, and Miss Paige provides a gusty contrast. A song number rendered by Miss Paige, however, might better have been omitted. The lyrics of the song itself are offensive; the costumes the lady wears leaves little to the imagination, and the camera angles employed in photographing the number make it unecessarily suggestive. Raoul Walsh directed, with the requisite attention to action.

Running time, 100 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 21.

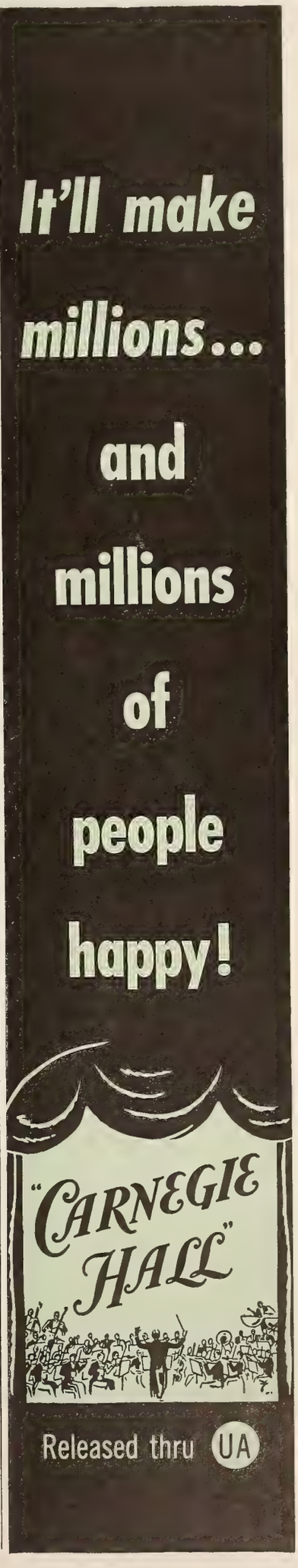
THALIA BELL

FCC Questionaire To Radio Stations

WASHINGTON, April 22.—The Federal Communications Commission is sending questionaires on construction costs, monthly revenue and expenses to all standard radio stations authorized since Oct. 8, 1945. Over-all findings will be disclosed after April 30.

$14,500 for 'Egg'

Universal-International's "The Egg and I" will gross an estimated $14,500 during the first six days of its third week at the Uptown Theatre, Toronto, the U-I home office reports. Average week's gross is $11,400.



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Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, April 22

JACK WRATHER, Texas oil man who has joined the ranks of Hollywood producers, will spend some $6,000,000 on five films to be produced for Monogram release during 1948 and 1949. The first will be a screen version of "In His Steps," a novel by the Rev. Charles Sheldon, and said to be one of the top sellers of all time. The second on Wrather's schedule is "Turning Point," a story of the oil fields. It will star Don Castle.

•

Peter Godfrey will direct "That Hagen Girl" for Warners. . . . Virginia Field and Patric Knowles have been engaged for leads in "Dream Girl," Betty Hutton's next starring vehicle at Paramount. Mitchell Leisen is scheduled to direct it. . . . Leo McCarey has engaged Gary Cooper for the stellar role in "Good Sam," his next Rainbow Production for RKO Radio release.

•

Enterprise has signed Charles Boyer for the title role in "The Passion of Eugene Aram," based on the Edward Bulwer Lytton story, which will be adapted to the screen by Ladislas Fodor. . . . Gene Raymond will make his final screen appearance as the father of 14-year-old Lois Butler, who has the title role in Eagle-Lion's "Clementine." Subsequently, Raymond plans to turn director.

•

"The Saxon Charm," new novel by Frederic Wakeman, author of "The Hucksters," has been purchased by Universal-International. . . . Charlotte Greenwood has been engaged for a stellar role in Republic's "Driftwood." She joins a cast headed by Walter Brennan, Ruth Warrick, Dean Jagger and Natalie Wood. . . . Mildred Natwick has returned to Hollywood to play a leading character role in M-G-M's "The Kissing Bandit."

•

Robert Emmett has been signed by Paramount producers William Pine and William Thomas to direct "Shaggy," the pair's next color picture. Brenda Joyce and Robert Shayne are set for top romantic roles. . . . Director Jacques Tourneur has had his RKO Radio contract extended. . . . Albert Dekker will portray a political boss in M-G-M's dramatization of the Sinclair Lewis novel, "Cass Timberlane."

•

Don Ameche has been engaged by Triangle Productions, new company headed by Mary Pickford, Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn, to co-star with Robert Cummings in "Sleep, My Love." For the first time in his long career, Ameche will appear as a murderer. . . . Mack Nosseck has been signed to direct "The Prince of Thieves," which Sam Katzman will direct in Cinecolor for Columbia release.

•

Robert Wise will direct "Bodyguard," original by George W. George and Robert E. Altman, which Sid Rogell will produce for RKO Radio. . . . Admiral Pictures has completed its first program of 12 two-reel 16mm. films based on the life of Stephen Foster.

Review

"The Captive Heart"

(Rank-Ealing—Prestige-U-I)

IN 1940 the British Army suffered its humiliating defeat at Dunkirk. Thousands of Tommys escaped across the English Channel, thousands died in battle and thousands were taken prisoner by the Germans to sweat out the duration behind barbed wire. Five years later, the tables of victory turned, producer Michael Balcon assigned director Basil Dearden, writers Angus MacPhail and Guy Morgan, and a company of top-notch British performers to the fashioning of this gripping, emotion-stirring cinematic tribute to the indomitable spirit of the unsung heroes of Dunkirk, the prisoners-of-war. It was filmed, for the most part, at a war prisoners' camp in Germany.

Reviewing the picture from London in the April 24, 1946, issue of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Peter Burnup described it thusly: "Easily the best thing producer Balcon has yet done." He said too that, "Mainly because it is based on a first-rate story—refreshing rarity in British production," the film has a "fine timeliness."

Now "The Captive Heart" comes one year later to America where, for some time, the public has demonstrated an aversion for war pictures, *per se*. Beautifully handled in every department in its making, providing many moments of sheer blood-surging suspense, and carrying strong appeal for all types of audiences, the production will be regarded as a money's-worth item by those who go to see it. Bringing in the customers is the problem, but it is a picture that is well worth any extra promotion which it may demand.

Several story threads are in evidence as the group of prisoners suffer their long years of frustration, boredom and fears. However, the main spotlight is focused on a young Czech officer, played by Michael Redgrave (the only member of the fine cast of British players who is known to any extent to American audiences), who had escaped from Dachau and is recaptured after having donned the uniform and assumed the identity of a dead British officer. While in custody he carries on a correspondence with the dead soldier's wife in England, with the outcome thereof affording a climax to be eagerly awaited by the audience. For American showings, 22 minutes of its running time have been cut from the original.

Running time, 86 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 26. C. L. F.

Owners Asked for Tax Information

In a move intended to stem any wave of new theatre taxation in large New York cities and counties, exhibitors throughout the state will be solicited to provide the State Tax Commission with reports on their grosses for 1944-1946. In the New York City area theatremen will be asked to cooperate in the plan by the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, and American Theatres Association will encourage cooperation throughout the rest of the state.

Robert W. Coyne, executive director of the ATA, and Fred Schwartz, head of the MMPTA, both active in the fight against new taxation, hope to show in the gross reports that any new yield would be far below estimates known to have been made by legislators looking for new city and county revenue.

Both plan to follow the gross reporting with attempts to prove that the authorized additional five per cent levy would substantially cut theatres' earning power, as already evidenced in Norfolk and Richmond, Va.

Zanuck Gets Option

HOLLYWOOD, April 22. — Darryl F. Zanuck, production vice-president of 20th Century-Fox, has secured an option on "Soviet Spy," a book by Lieut. Col. Richard Hirsch, for use in connection with the recently announced production about Russian espionage.

Universal Dividend

Universal's board of directors has declared a quarterly dividend of $1.06 per share on four and one-quarter per cent cumulative preferred stock to stockholders of record on May 15. The dividend is payable on June 2.

Increase Efforts For Greek Drive

Ned Depinet, Si Fabian and Jack Cohn, national co-chairmen, and Tom Connors, national distributor chairman, of the industry's Appeal for War Orphans of Greece in honor of Spyros P. Skouras, have again called upon the industry to renew its efforts to put over the $1,200,000 drive.

The sales chieftains have telegraphed to all field managers to proceed vigorously towards bringing the campaign to a successful conclusion. Every exchange was pledged for at least one orphan. At the same time a telegram went to exhibitor chairmen and circuit heads.

The exhibitors' luncheon held in New York recently resulted in pledges of $32,000 and under the direction of Fred Schwartz, Metropolitan area chairman, follow-ups are being made to increase this with the objective of obtaining one orphan for every theatre in the New York area.

Cantor in UJA Film Released This Week

Eddie Cantor is starred in a five-minute short to be released this week and produced by Dore Schary, RKO-Radio executive vice-president, to further the national $170,000,000 United Jewish Appeal drive for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine.

RKO Television Moves

Executive offices of RKO Television Corp. are now located in the Pathe Building, on Madison Avenue, New York. Ralph B. Austrian, president of RKO Television, says: "The increased television programming activities occurring since the FCC's color ruling has dictated the move."

O. Hehn Speaks at SMPE Convention

CHICAGO, April 22.—Otto Hehn of Nu-Screen Corp., New York, told the morning session of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers at the Esquire Theatre here of the advantages claimed for the firm's new concave-convex fiberglas screen, which is said to eliminate distortion and "hot spot." Hehn cited the installations at the Park Avenue and Winter Garden theatres in New York as proof of its practicability.

Most other talks this morning were of a highly technical nature. Afternoon sessions were resumed at the Drake Hotel, with major talks being given by Arch Brolley, chief engineer of Balaban and Katz' television station, WBKB, and William C. Eddy, director of the station. Brolley spoke on "Television Remote Operation," and Eddy on "Television Studio Lighting." Eddy also acted as host to SMPE members who toured the television station tonight.

Actor Eddie Albert will speak on "Educational films for a Democratic Tomorrow" at tomorrow's session. A banquet will be held at the Drake Hotel tomorrow night. The sessions will continue through Friday.

Memphis Bans 'Duel'

(*Continued from page* 1)

taken against the ruling, though adding that official statements would have to come through Robert Gillham, Eastern director of publicity and advertising for the Selznick Releasing Organization in New York. Gillham was quoted here as saying that "we feel the Memphis censor is being most unfair to us in this action. The picture has been approved by the National Board of Review, has been passed by state censors in Florida, Texas, Massachusetts, California and New York."

Meanwhile, Binford issued a statement explaining why the board ordered several cuts in "The Macomber Affair" that had been scheduled to open at Loew's Palace. The film was withdrawn after the cuts were ordered.

Two Westerns were banned last week by the censor board. They were Universal's "Destry Rides Again" and "When the Daltons Rode."

May Settle 3 Trust

(*Continued from page* 1)

made to settle the cases out of court, since this marks their sixth or seventh postponement.

Defendants in the Middle States and Riverside cases have been given until May 5 to file replies. Middle States asks $900,000 for losses allegedly sustained while operating the Minnesota Theatre in Minneapolis. Middle States and Riverside combined to ask $1,750,000 for losses allegedly sustained while operating the Riverside in Milwaukee.

In the third suit, that of the Schoenstadt Circuit on behalf of its Piccadilly Theatre, the circuit asks $6,750,000 damages. This case has been postponed until May 9, at which time defendants' briefs are due. Major distributors are defendants in all three cases. Balaban and Katz and Warner Bros. Theatres are exhibitor defendants in the Piccadilly case.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MR. JOYCE O'HARA,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

V 61. NO. 80 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1947 TEN CENTS

Report House Group Against US Film Funds

Would Cut $31,000,000 From State Dep't Grant

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, April 23. — A House sub-committee on appropriations was reported tentatively to have decided not to grant the requested appropriation of $31,000,000 for the State Department's Office of International Information and Cultural Affairs for the fiscal year of 1948.

This would cut out the operation of the International Motion Picture Division as well as all overseas radio broadcasts and information activities of OIC.

It was indicated that the reason for the rejection of the appropriation is that all activities of the OIC with the exception of the South American cultural program have not been authorized by law.

At the same time Assistant Secretary of State William Benton, testify-

(*Continued on page 6*)

See N.J. Federation As Permanent Unit

Encouraged by its having "pushed back to the sea" the three per cent theatre admission tax menace which, several weeks ago, threatened all of New Jersey, the Federation of New Jersey Theatre Owners is expected to continue indefinitely as a tax-fighting combination of all elements of New Jersey exhibition.

The Federation views as a moral

(*Continued on page 8*)

Giveaways Threaten Return on Coast

Los Angeles, April 23.—Independent exhibitors in this area are considering inaugurating giveaways in the near future if theatre patronage does not show an increase. Some 16 independents already have gone into cooperative deals with merchants for giving away radios, electric irons, scooters, toasters and other household articles, but the movement is not under way on extensive scale so far.

Golden, Kruse in Clash over MPEA Film Export Policy

CHICAGO, April 23.—With Nathan D. Golden, of the motion picture division of the U. S. Department of Commerce, placing himself on record as favoring the Motion Picture Export Association's policy of selective limitation of U. S. films for exhibition abroad, disagreement was expressed by William C. Kruse, vice-president of United World Films, who asserted that restriction of the number of films exported because of the desire to depict America in its best light amounts to censorship. Kruse who, along with Golden, addressed the third day's session of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers' 61st semi-annual convention here, advocated sending all U. S. films overseas.

Alluding to nations within the Soviet "iron curtain," Golden coun-

(*Continued on page 8*)

MPA Seeks Outlets In Education Field

WASHINGTON, April 23.—The motion picture industry is looking to a wider distribution of regular product in educational film channels and a broader policy of adapting footage for educational use, according to Roger Albright, director of educational services of the Motion Picture Association.

The MPA division intends to become increasingly useful in the field of education, Albright said, and wants to give teachers an appreciation of how industry films can be adapted for teaching use in specific situations.

Albright cited the recent editing and collecting of 23 films made from book classics to be used in teaching English literature. He also explained a recent experiment with 24 Nebraska high schools in an effort to increase distribution of films to rural high schools.

Gould Makes 4 New U.A. Appointments

James Raymond, formerly United Artists manager in Trinidad, has been named manager in Colombia, succeeding Beno Slesin, who was killed in an airplane accident last February. Raymond arrived here yesterday for home office conferences before proceeding to Bogota to assume his new duties. Other appointments made by Walter Gould, UA foreign manager include: Raymond's successor in Trinidad,

(*Continued on page 8*)

Sen. Langer Favors Film Industry Probe

Washington, April 23.—Sen. Langer, chairman of a Senate subcommittee investigating monopoly trends, disclosed here today that he favors an investigation of the motion picture industry, with special emphasis on theatre ownership by distributors.

Langer stated that he will take the matter up with the other two members of his committee at a meeting to be held late this week or early next, when future plans of the committee will be mapped.

Studios Invite Painter Talks

HOLLYWOOD, April 23.—A second important step toward establishing a basis for a studio strike settlement was taken today when the major studios asked Painters' Local No. 644 to meet with their labor committee on May 1 for collective bargaining. The invitation, addressed to Herbert K. Sorrell in his capacity as business agent of the local, was identical in phraseology with that sent last week to the carpenters' International representative, Joseph Cambiano, which resulted in a first meeting yesterday.

Sorrell, who is also president of the Conference of Studio Unions, did not immediately accept the wired invitation, but indicated that he would do so.

Renew Mexico Move For Ceiling Prices

MEXICO CITY, April 23.—The trade is again concerned by revival of a move started some months ago by the local government to fix ceiling admissions. Renewed and intensified

(*Continued on page 6*)

Indiana Owners Hit Psychopathic Films

FT. WAYNE, Ind., April 23.—The Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, meeting here, vigorously condemned current film trends, particularly those using neurotic, psychopathic or criminal elements as features of the plot. The association also opposed the practice of producers who force price increases for their pictures.

Universal To 'Negotiate' Run Demands

Scully Says Bids Under Stayed Decree Are Out

Universal will not engage in competitive bidding during the stay of the New York Federal Court decree, but will continue its policy of entering into negotiations with exhibitors seeking a better run, W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, said yesterday.

In addition, the company during the period of the Supreme Court stay, will license as many pictures at one time as an exhibitor requests, although the pictures, regardless of number, will be sold singly, Scully said.

Scully said there already have been several instances in which an exhibitor upon presenting reasonable demand for the run enjoyed by his competitor has been granted that run after an agreement on terms had been reached with the company. He reported that

(*Continued on page 6*)

600 Hear Senator Cite the Industry

Describing the motion picture as the "outstanding cultural ambassador of the United States," U. S. Senator Francis J. Myers, of Pennsylvania, last night urged the industry to place greater emphasis in its productions on "the things which truly represent America." He spoke before a gathering of 600 at the 30th annual dinner-dance of the Associated Motion Pic-

(*Continued on page 8*)

SRO Will Not Contest Memphis 'Duel' Ban

The Selznick Releasing Organization will probably not challenge the ban imposed on the scheduled exhibition of "Duel in the Sun" in Memphis and Shelby County, Tenn., Robert Gillham, Eastern head of publicity and advertising for SRO, discloses here.

William P. Rosenow, former Paramount sales representative in Buffalo and Syracuse is branch manager of Selznick Releasing Corp.'s new office in Buffalo.

James Walsh has opened an SRO Seattle branch.

Personal Mention

CHARLES EINFELD will fly back to the Coast this evening, and will return to New York in about two weeks. DAVID LEWIS and DAVID LOEW will return to the Coast tomorrow.

•

GUY HEVIA, Morristown, N. J., city manager of Walter Reade Theatres, has been appointed chairman of the entertainment division of the Morristown Area Chamber of Commerce.

•

MR. and MRS. MICHAEL A. FASANO, owners of the Cummings Theatre, Fitchburg, Mass., have announced the wedding of their daughter, ANTOINETTE, to BERNARD D. BUTLER.

•

LAWRENCE BELLER, United Artists publicist, this week received from the Swedish Government its "Order of Vasa" citation for his services during the war.

•

HERMAN GLUCKMAN, president of Nu-Screen Corp., and OTTO HEHN, development engineer, are in Chicago from New York.

•

NATE BLUMBERG, president of Universal, will return to New York from the Coast the latter part of this week or early next week.

•

JACK P. HARRIS, of Walter Reade Theatres, has returned to New York from a three-week stay in Florida.

•

SAMUEL HACKER, head of Film Audit Service, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

FRED SCHWARTZ, vice-president of Century Circuit, will leave here for Florida tomorrow.

•

SOL A. SCHWARTZ, vice-president and general manager of RKO Theatres, has left here for Mexico City.

•

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M's exhibitor relations director, is due to return here from Minneapolis today.

General Precision Profit Is $257,143

General Precision Equipment Corp. and subsidiaries report for the three months ended March 31, a consolidated net operating profit of $257,143, after provision for Federal income taxes. These earnings, which are subject to year-end adjustments, compare with a consolidated net profit of $280,552 for the corresponding period of 1946.

During the first quarter of 1947 a profit of $20,085 was realized from the sale of investments.

Give $9,500 to Orphans

Sol A. Schwartz, home office chairman of the industry's Appeal for the War Orphans of Greece, has collected more than $9,500 to date. This represents only five companies: 20th Century-Fox, RKO, Loew's, Monogram and Eagle-Lion PRC.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

THE authoritative *New York Times* had much to report earlier this week on the state of the nation. In a roundup of opinion among important newspaper publishers and executives, assembled in New York, Russell Porter summed up his findings in three conclusions:

"Newspaper publishers and other executives . . . said that business and industry throughout the country generally were still flourishing despite fears in some quarters of a recession. . . . Representing a cross-section of the country, visiting newspapermen . . . said no signs of a recession were visible as yet in any tangible or conclusive form. Consumer resistance to high prices seems to vary, but in places where price adjustments have taken place they have been made in an orderly fashion. Retail business generally is reported to be holding up."

■

For those in this industry who frighten quickly or who may entertain serious doubts about the intensity of the rainbow, this should be interesting information. Some of the detail deserves attention, viz:

Col. Robert R. McCormick, Chicago *Tribune*: Business in Chicago area very good. Midwest factories running full blast. Labor situation good. Retail stores doing big business. No serious consumer resistance on prices. Farm conditions excellent by fall.

John S. Knight, publisher of newspapers in Chicago, Detroit, Akron and Miami: Business very good in those cities. Sees values returning to normal levels. No recession signs.

■

George F. Booth, Worcester [Mass.] *Telegram* and *Courier*: Conditions in New England very good. No signs of early recession in manufacturing, except with some woolen mills. Slight retail decline due to high prices.

Paul Bellamy, Cleveland *Plain Dealer*: Signs show "all the makings of a boom" without actual existence of one. Not much fear of recession, at least not before 1948. Consumer resistance to luxury prices. Tremendous market for durable goods—autos, washing machines, etc.

E. Lansing Ray, St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*: Business excellent in area. Slight slackening, but not serious. Retail stores doing well.

Roy A. Roberts, Kansas City *Star*: Tremendous crops in sight in Midwest. Some consumer opposition on quality items. Some slowdown in retail sales, but not much. By and large, things in good shape.

■

W. M. Schmick, Baltimore *Sun*: General business good. Retail stores continue climbing. Some resistance to quality merchandise. Some observers fear recession, but signs don't back them up.

John Cowles, Minneapolis *Star* and *Tribune*: Great prosperity in Northwest farm areas. Over-full employment. Merchants cutting prices because of consumer insistence. No visible signs of immediate recession.

James E. Chappell, Birmingham, Ala., *News* and *Age-Herald*: Business in Deep South could not be better. Full employment, no labor troubles. Industry, agriculture doing fine. Some resistance to high prices.

E. K. Gaylord, Oklahoma City *Oklahoman*: Things holding up very well.

■

Palmer Hoyt, Denver *Post*: Activity high throughout Rocky Mountain region. Mining and agriculture prosperous. Department store volume still high.

George T. Cameron, San Francisco *Chronicle*: West Coast conditions flourishing. Volume is sustained. No serious recession anticipated this year.

W. H. Cowles, Jr., Spokane [Wash.] *Spokesman-Review*: Conditions good in Pacific Northwest. No signs of recession. Tendency continues upward, barring some minor changes in prices.

Feeling any better?

■

If not, take a gander at the 20th Century-Fox profit curve, including as it does National Theatres and the New York Roxy. For 1945: $12,746,467. For 1946: $22,619,535. Gain: $9,873,068. Consolidated gross for 1946: $200,529,482, or a new high. Observes Spyros P. Skouras under April 14 date: "So far in 1947, the high quality of our product has caused film rentals to show an increase over the corresponding period of 1946, although costs are somewhat higher."

Feeling any better?

Circuit, Guild Sign Open Shop Contract

Elaborating on an announcement by the Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, here, that a contract had been signed by the Guild and Combined Bronx Amusements, Inc., Abraham Mopper, attorney for the circuit, reported yesterday that the contract is a one-year open shop contract in the added that recognition of the union is conditioned upon and subject to any changes in legislation and court decisions affecting the right of the New York State Labor Board to certify managers or supervisory employes as a bargaining unit.

Mopper said salaries agreed upon are $70 per week for managers and $40 per week for assistant managers; the managers received a $5 increase. Work week is 50 hours, with four additional hours to be served at straight time, and all time beyond the 54 hours to be paid for at time-and-a-half.

Agree on Ascap-NY Group Court Order

Attorneys for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and a group of New York theatremen charging Ascap with restraint-of-trade yesterday agreed on the contents of an order directing that Ascap's motion for dismissal be granted unless the plaintiffs subject themselves to pre-trial examination by June.

Plaintiff attorneys claim early pre-trial examinations will be held and that Ascap's motion, in effect, will be denied in consequence.

N.Y. Daylight Saving Begins This Sunday

Daylight-saving time will begin here and in 50 other New York cities and 65 towns and villages at 2:00 A.M. Sunday, when clocks will be pushed ahead one hour. Newburgh will not change until May 27.

New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and New Hampshire are the only states to have statewide daylight-saving time in the East.

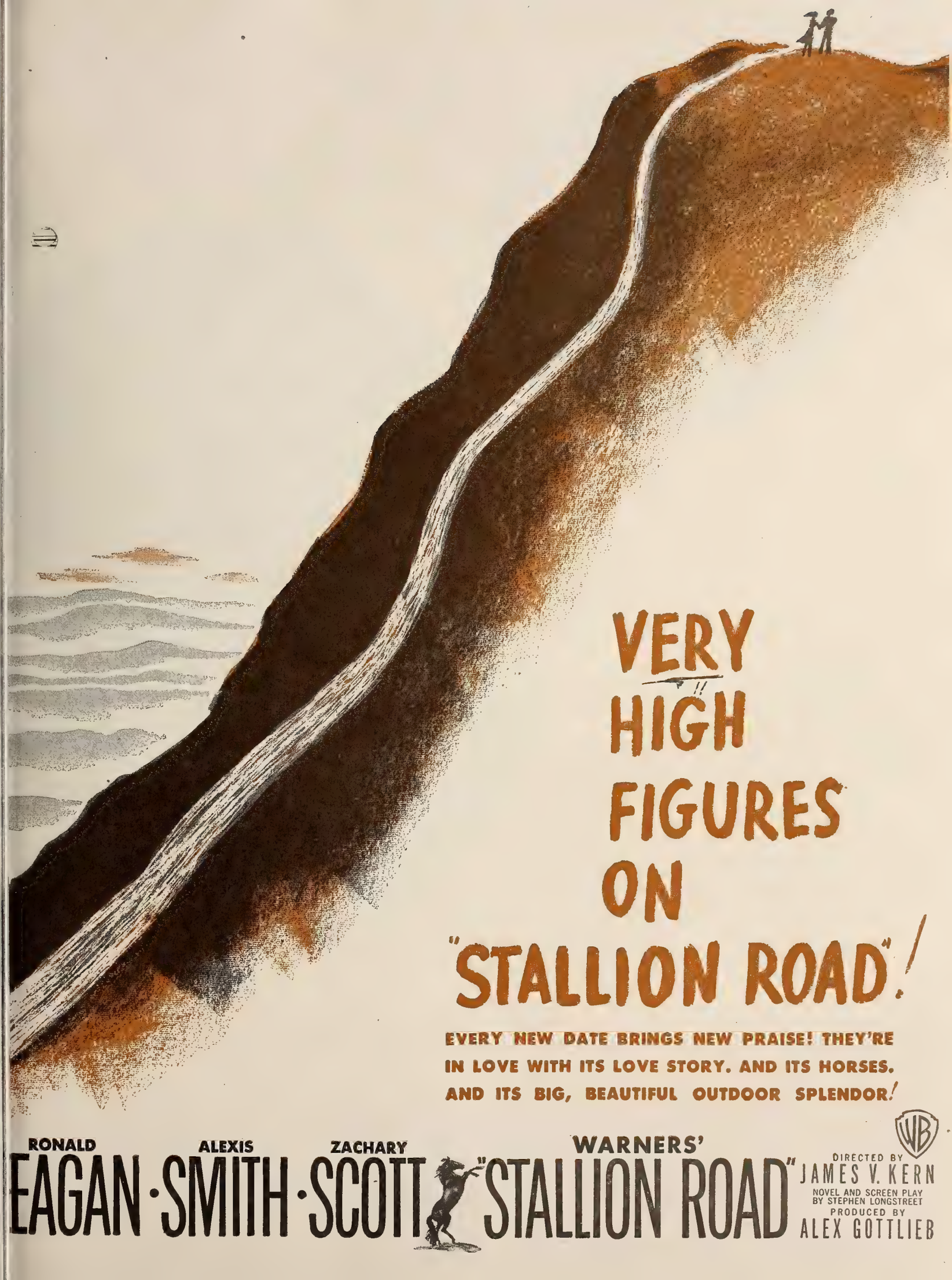
Johnston To Address Indian Conference

Eric Johnston will be principal speaker at the India Film Conference to be held here on May 5-7, announces Hari Govil, founder-director of the India Society of America. The Motion Picture Association president will speak at a banquet for Vijay Bhatt, Indiana producer-director.

General Release of 'Verdoux' Next Year

Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux," United Artists release, will be withheld from general distribution until next year, according to present plans. The picture, now playing at the Broadway Theatre, UA's newly-acquired New York "showcase," will play a pre-release run in Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles this year.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



VERY HIGH FIGURES ON "STALLION ROAD"!

EVERY NEW DATE BRINGS NEW PRAISE! THEY'RE IN LOVE WITH ITS LOVE STORY. AND ITS HORSES. AND ITS BIG, BEAUTIFUL OUTDOOR SPLENDOR!

RONALD EAGAN · ALEXIS SMITH · ZACHARY SCOTT

WARNERS' "STALLION ROAD"

DIRECTED BY JAMES V. KERN

NOVEL AND SCREEN PLAY BY STEPHEN LONGSTREET

PRODUCED BY ALEX GOTTLIEB

EXHIBITORS KNOW

that one of the year's top moneymakers is Producer Hunt Stromberg's "The Strange Woman" starring Hedy Lamarr.

EXHIBITORS AGREE

a new Hunt Stromberg production starring Hedy Lamarr and following in a few months the tremendous success of "The Strange Woman" is good for the same—OR BETTER—great business!

EXHIBITORS WANT

just such a follow-up headliner when it is



HUNT STROMBERG'S
presentation of
HEDY LAMARR
in
Dishonored Lady

co-starring
DENNIS O'KEEFE · JOHN LODER
with WILLIAM LUNDIGAN · MORRIS CARNOVSKY · PAUL CAVANAGH · NATALIE SCHAFER
PRODUCED BY JACK CHERTOK
Directed by ROBERT STEVENSON · Screenplay by EDMUND H. NORTH · A HUNT STROMBERG Production

Exhibitors can get it from UA

N. Y. Area 'Duel' Promotion Begins

A mobile trailer unit, a blimp, a special float for parades, and signs on all Railway Express and American News trucks are some of the devices by which the Selznick Releasing Organization last night launched its publicity for the opening of "Duel in the Sun" at the Capitol and 38 other Loew theatres in the metropolitan area on May 7. The drive is under the direction of Robert L. Gillham, Eastern advertising and publicity director for SRO.

The mobile trailer unit covered the city last night and will appear in Boston today. Other cities which it will visit, and the dates, are: Brockton, April 25; Fall River, 26; Providence, 28; Worcester, 29; Springfield, 30; Hartford, May 1; Waterbury, 2; New Haven, 3; Bridgeport, 5; Stamford, 6; New Brunswick, 7; Morristown, 8; Perth Amboy, 9; Long Branch and Asbury Park, 10; Red Bank and Freehold on May 12.

A specially lighted blimp will first appear, over Stamford and Bridgeport, on April 30. Other visits will be to New Haven and Waterbury, May 1; Hartford, 2; Perth Amboy, Red Bank, Long Branch and Asbury Park, 3; New Brunswick, Morristown and Flemington on May 4. New York will see it on May 5-7. Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia will see it from May 8 to 14.

During the "Duel" run here, the special float bearing "Miss Duel in the Sun" will head a parade through the city's streets.

Curtiz Schedule Set For Seven Pictures

HOLLYWOOD, April 23.—Michael Curtiz Productions, Inc., which recently completed its first picture, "The Unsuspected," for Warner Brothers, has seven additional set for filming on the Burbank lot.

Curtiz will direct the entire schedule, which includes "Romance in High C," in Technicolor, next to go before the cameras; "Serenade," co-starring Dennis Morgan and Ann Sheridan; "Sugarfoot," from the Clarence Budington Kelland story, in Technicolor; "Shadow of Fear," "No Common Clay," "Victoria Grandolet" and "Winter Kill."

Condon Joins E-L

Robert Condon has been added to the home office publicity staff of Eagle-Lion Films as newspaper and feature writer, by Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising-publicity. Condon, formerly film editor of *This Week*, *Liberty* and *Pageant*, has devoted the past year to radio writing. Earlier, he was with 20th Century-Fox and United Artists and was assistant to Francis Harmon on the War Activities Committee.

International Awards

U. S. films produced between Jan. 1, 1946, and April 30, 1947, will be allowed to compete for international awards at the World Film Festival to be held in Brussels June 1 to 20, announces William Kruse, Festival representative here. Five special divisions have been set up to judge nonfiction films; namely: documentary, scientific, educational, newsreel and advertising.

Canada Sales Head to Attend MGM Meet

Ted Gould, general sales manager for Regal Films, Ltd. of Canada, will attend the M-G-M sales conference to be held at the Astor Hotel for a week, starting Monday. This will mark the first time in many years that a member of the company's Canadian executive sales staff will be on hand for such an M-G-M sales conference. Heretofore, most of the sales confabs have been held in Chicago and limited to personnel in the U. S.

Due to illness, John G. Kemptgen, Milwaukee manager, will not attend. Eph Rosen, Minneapolis assistant manager, who is pinch-hitting for Kemptgen in Milwaukee, will represent Kemptgen, now on a leave of absence.

Twelve More Films Get Legion Ratings

The National Legion of Decency has classified 12 additional pictures. Placed in Class A-1 were: "Angels of the Streets," M-G-M; "Barber of Seville" (Italian), Excelsior; "Hit Parade of 1947," "Homesteaders of Paradise Valley," and "Twilight on the Rio Grande," all Republic. Classified A-II were: "Calcutta," Paramount; "Jewels of Brandenburg," 20th Century-Fox; "New Orleans," United Artists.

Placed in Class B were: "Cheyenne," Warners; "Jungle Flight," Paramount; "Life Begins Anew" (Italian), Superfilm; "Land of the Lawless," Monogram.

Minneapolis PTA Attacks 'Outlaw'

MINNEAPOLIS, April 23.—The local Parent-Teachers Association today launched a formal protest against the showing of "The Outlaw," scheduled to open tomorrow for an indefinite run at the Lyceum theatre. Hugh Flynn, who presented the protest to the office of Mayor Hubert H. Humphrey, said the film has received publicity of a type that practically guarantees a high percentage of junior and senior high school students in the audience.

Toscano Dies in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, April 23.—Salvador Toscano, 76, "Father of Mexican Motion Pictures," who imported cameras and other equipment in 1904 to produce Mexico's first pictures, and who in the following year opened Mexico's first two theatres to exhibit his productions, died at the home of his daughter here. Burial was attended by representatives of all branches of the industry.

Warners Named in Suit

Warner Brothers was named defendant in an injunction and accounting action filed in U. S. District Court here by David X. Manners, for alleged infringement of his copyrighted story "Killers' Keeper." It is alleged that Warners copied from the story plot ideas and situations for its production of the film "Conflict."

Park Books 'Night'

"Dead of Night," J. Arthur Rank production, will open at the Park Avenue Theatre here today for a one week run. It was produced in England by Michael Balcon and is being released by Universal-International.

Industry Is Spared By 20 Legislatures

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Twenty-two of the 44 state legislatures meeting this year have adjourned. In only two states thus far has legislation detrimental to the industry been passed—in New York where large cities and counties were given authority to impose an additional five per cent admission tax, and in New Jersey where summer resorts along the coast were empowered to impose an additional three per cent admission tax.

Colorado's is the fifth state legislature to adjourn in the last two weeks. It took no action detrimental to the industry, according to Jack Bryson, legislative director of the Motion Picture Association, who said censorship and admission tax bills were left buried in committee.

Other state legislatures to adjourn during the last fortnight include Delaware, where a censorship bill and a bill enabling Wilmington to impose admission taxes died in committee; Oregon, where a three per cent sales tax was passed, subject to ratification by referendum this fall, and Kansas where no bills affecting the industry were introduced.

Censorship bills are still pending in Iowa, Connecticut and Missouri while many states are considering tax plans affecting the industry.

Two UOPWA Locals Sponsor Film Night

Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, and Screen Publicists Guild, Local No. 114, both UOPWA, will sponsor the showing of several shorts tonight at the Malin Theatre here. Included is a picture produced by screen readers here.

Also to be shown are an animated cartoon, "Brotherhood of Man," and a sound film made in Paris by Eddie Huebsch and Dave Golden when they were in the Army.

MGM Will Release Bergman's 'Joan'

HOLLYWOOD, April 23. — M-G-M will release Walter Wanger's technicolor production based on the life of Joan of Arc with Victor Fleming directing, Louis B. Mayer announced today. Maxwell Anderson, author of the play, "Joan of Lorraine," which Ingrid Bergman will leave in May to star in the picture in July, arrived today to work on the screen play.

Renew Mexico Move

(*Continued from page* 1)

complaints that $1.50 is excessive for an ordinary vaudeville-revue and is only justified on those rare occasions when very big stars perform, and that 85 cents is far too much for most pictures, have spurred the government to again seek price ceilings.

Reports are that 45 to 65 cents will be the ceiling for first-runs for ordinary pictures, with permission to charge 85 cents for something extra special, with a $1 maximum for ordinary vaudeville shows.

Exhibitors contend that a 45-65-cent rate would be unprofitable because of new high costs, chiefly for labor. A like argument against the $1 ceiling is made by vaudeville house operators.

Set Up Foreign Film Distributors Unit

A co-operative agency, for the exchange of ideas and the standardization of practices among American distributors of foreign language films, is in the process of organization, tentatively known as United Foreign Films Distributors. The founder is Martin Levine, general manager of Brandt Theatres and head of Distinguished Films, foreign film distributor.

Levine said he has discussed the plan with other independent distributors and they have encouraged the to proceed. Because of their preponderance, French imports will be emphasized. Over-all objective is to develop distribution practices and new outlets for foreign product in the U. S.

Roy Rogers Circus Set for Six Cities

HOLLYWOOD, April 23.—Roy Rogers and his horse Trigger will open at a "Cowboy's Thrill Circus" at the New York Polo Grounds on June 15 for an eight-day stand, followed by engagements in Columbus, Indianapolis, Louisville, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh. Bob Nolan and the Sons of the Pioneers will appear with Rogers, as they do in all of his films and rodeos. The circus will also include a variety of circus acts.

US Film Funds

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing before a House executive expenditures sub-committee this morning, stressed the importance of OIC's overseas radio broadcasts in presenting the American scene abroad, calling them "the most significant, important, vital" function of OIC.

Benton listed the numerous other countries from which international broadcasts flow and stated that OIC broadcasts over a period of time will counteract the propaganda of other nations by giving a truthful objective report of the United States.

Legislation authorizing OIC to perform its overseas information functions has been reviewed by both the Senate foreign relations committee and the House foreign affairs committee, but it was revealed that there is no likelihood of the immediate introduction of such legislation in Congress.

A spokesman for the House subcommittee on appropriations set May 2 as the probable date when the report on OIC will be sent to the House.

Scully, Universal

(*Continued from page* 1)

Universal has sold away from former customers on this basis in Oklahoma City, Savannah, Atlantic City and in other areas.

The bidding provisions of the New York decree directed that where a theatreman in a competitive area desires a run the distributor shall notify all exhibitors in the area in advance that bids will be received and shall declare a minimum rental.

As for the multiple film licensing, Scully explained that at the request of the exhibitor the latter would be given the opportunity to buy "two, 10 or even 20" pictures in one transaction. Actually the films are sold singly and the method is not to be construed as block booking, as the licensing of one picture is not contingent upon the licensing of another, he stressed.

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

Holdovers predominated at first run theatres here. Two new offerings, "The Late George Apley" and "The Private Affairs of Bel Ami," did average business. In five of the six theatres where "The Egg and I" is in its third week, the film is doing exceptionally fine business. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 23:

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—BRUIN (867) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $2,500)
JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,100)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $11,500)
THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 1st week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,200)
THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $18,100)
JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,800)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—FOX-BEVERLY (1,300) (Advanced price: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 17th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,000)
THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $13,300)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—GUILD (965) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 6th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $5,900)
TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio) and BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $19,800)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $7,200)
THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 1st week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $28,600)
THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $22,600)
THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 1st week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,500)
THE PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 1st week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,700)
THE PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 1st week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $14,200)
THE PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 1st week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,400)
THE PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 1st week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,700)
JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $18,800)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PALACE (1,237) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 13th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $21,000)
TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio) and BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $20,800)
ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.) and THE PILGRIM LADY (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $26,600)

WANTED

Small movie theatre located in suburban area New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia. Individual will buy or lease. Broker.

BOX 388, MOTION PICTURE DAILY 1270 6th Ave. - New York City, N. Y.

ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $16,100)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $9,600)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $6,100)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $15,800)
THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 1st week. Gross: $15,600. (Average: $13,200)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—VOGUE (800) ($1.00-$1.50-$1.80) 16th week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $10,000)
THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 1st week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,200)
THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 1st week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,500)
THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 1st week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,500)
THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 1st week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $14,900)

CHICAGO

The biggest business in the Loop is being done at the Oriental which is showing "Boomerang" on the screen and presenting on the stage Glenn Miller's orchestra with Tex Beneke. The Oriental will gross at least $70,000 for the first week of this combination. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 23-24:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 17th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $12,000)
THE GUILT OF JANET AMES (Col.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c) On stage: Veloz and Yolanda. Gross: $55,000. (Average: $62,000)
13 RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 5th week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $13,000)
SMASH UP (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 5th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,000)
BOOMERANG (20th - Fox)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c) On stage: Glenn Miller's orchestra with Tex Beneke. Gross: $70,000. (Average: $48,000)
TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio) and THE AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE (Rep.)—PALACE (2,500) (65c-95c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $24,000)
NORA PRENTISS (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $20,000)
CALIFORNIA (Para.)—STATE - LAKE (2,700) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $40,000. (Average: $29,000)
LADY IN THE LAKE (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $27,000)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (Advanced admission prices: 95c-$1.20-$1.40-$1.80) 18th week. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $28,000) (Regular admission price: 95c; regular average: $20,000)

SAN FRANCISCO

New product in practically all situations is boosting box-office returns here. "The Macomber Affair" is demonstrating the greatest newcomer strength, while "The Best Years of Our Lives," in its sixth week, is garnering top grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 25:

RAMROD (UA) and SHOOT TO KILL (Screen Guild)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 1st week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $14,000)
THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M) and THE GUILTY (M-G-M)—FOX (4,651) (60c-85c) 1st week. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $32,000)
THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00) with vaudeville, 1st week. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $32,000)
THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA) and BLONDIE'S BIG MOMENT (Col.)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 1st week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,000)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—UNITED NATIONS (1,129) (Advanced admission prices: $1.25-$1.50) 6th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average at regular prices of 60c-85c: $6,000)
MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA) and BLONDIE'S BIG MOMENT (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,008) (55c-85c) 1st week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $10,000)
THE SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK (UA)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 3rd week, 5 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $14,000)
IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M) and JUNGLE FLIGHT (Para.)—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 1st week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $27,000)
THE IMPERFECT LADY (Para.) and EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 7st week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $23,000)
CALCUTTA (Para.)—ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (60c-85c) 1st week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $23,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

Film business remained sluggish at first-run spots here. The bright spot again was "The Egg and I," now in its third week and holding up well. "Henry V" gathered a little momentum after a dull midweek opening. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 22-25:

HENRY V (UA)—CINEMA (550) ($2.40-$1.80). Gross: $7,000.
GENTLEMAN JOE PALOOKA (Mono.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (48c-72c). With Charlie Spivak's orchestra on stage. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,500)
SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO-Radio)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $15,200)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c) 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $6,500)
MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M) and LOVE LAUGHS AT ANDY HARDY (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,800)
THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB) and THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE (RKO Radio)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,700)

DENVER

"The Sea of Grass" with "Secret of the Whistler" was strong at the Orpheum, and is holding over. Coming of spring weather over the week-end put a crimp in most takes, however. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 23-24:

BOOMERANG (20th-Fox) and CIGARETTE GIRL (Col.)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 1st week, after a week each at the DENVER, ESQUIRE and WEBBER. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,000)
THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—BLUEBIRD (572) (35c-74c) 4 days, 2nd week, after a week at the PARAMOUNT and two weeks each at the DENVER, WEBBER, and RIALTO. Gross: $1,800. (Average: $4,000)
GALLANT BESS (M-G-M) and BORN TO SPEED (PRC)—BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c) 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. Average: $8,000)
MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.) and SEVEN WERE SAVED (Para.)—DENHAM (1,705) (35c-70c) 3rd week for "Brunette." Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,000)
ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue) and THE BRASHER DOUBLOON (20th-Fox)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) 1st week, day-date with the WEBBER. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,000)
FANTASIA (RKO Radio)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 1st week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $3,000)
THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M) and SECRET OF THE WHISTLER (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 1st week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $15,500)
LOVE AND LEARN (WB) and FALL GUY (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 1st week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RIALTO (878) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.50) 2nd week, after four weeks at the ALADDIN. Gross: $5,500. (Average at regular prices of 35c-74c: $3,000)
ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue) and THE BRASHER DOUBLOON (20th-Fox)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) 1st week, day-date with the DENVER. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $2,000)



100 Warner Houses Book Dual Reissue

Upsetting the policy of an estimated 100 Warner theatres against double features and reissues, the dual Warner program, combining "The Sea Hawk" and "The Sea Wolf," has been booked by 280 first-run theatres throughout the country, according to late reports yesterday. Among Warner theatres for which this will represent a new departure on either double bills or reissues are: Earle and Ambassador, Washington; Stanley, Baltimore; Warners' Hollywood, Downtown and Wilton, Los Angeles; Orpheum, Des Moines; Capitol, Madison; Grand, Columbus; Warner, Youngstown; Strand, Akron; Brandeis, Omaha; Strand, Hartford; Grand, Cincinnati; Roger Sherman, New Haven, and Stanley, Pittsburgh, among others.

Birdwell Shuts Shop

HOLLYWOOD, April 23.—Russell Birdwell has closed his film publicity business and says he will "sit in the sun for a while and then take the best offer." Russell Birdwell Associates has been operating since 1939. Prior to that, for four years, he was director of publicity and exploitation of Selznick International Pictures.

N. J. Federation

(*Continued from page* 1)

victory the fact that the new state law, which empowers coastal cities only to levy a three per cent admission tax, was prevented, through Federation efforts during the recent legislative session, from being made to apply generally throughout the state. The original bill had been amended to apply only to fourth class coastal cities prior to its being passed by the legislature.

Members of the Federation include Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, Independent Theatre Owners of New York (which includes New Jersey membership), Loew's, Paramount, RKO and Warner theatres, the Walter Reade and Fabian circuits, and numerous smaller independents. George Gold of Newark is its director-chairman.

The Jersey legislature adjourned on Monday. Pending its meeting again next year, the Federation presumably will direct its attacks against local admission tax threats, girding, meanwhile, for battles against possible 1948 legislative tax bills.

4 U.A. Appointments

(*Continued from page* 1)

Frank G. Berglas, who joined UA last October and served in the company's Panama and Havana offices; Adolfo Friedman, who has held various posts in UA's Latin-American division, named special representative in Uruguay; Humberto Giancolo, named manager of the branch in Tuouman, Argentina, and Luis Eduardo Londono, manager of the company's new office in Barranquilla, Colombia

REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
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Complete Film and
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Delay Rank Dinner; New Date To Be Set

The dinner honoring J. Arthur Rank, British industry leader, to be given by the directors of the Motion Picture Association, originally scheduled for May 8 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here, has been postponed because of a change in steamship schedules. Rank is now expected here from England shortly after that date but no new date for the dinner has been set.

'Elizabeth' Due Tomorrow; Expect 'America' on Saturday

Running behind schedule after being buffeted by bad weather, both the *SS. Queen Elizabeth* and the *SS. America* will not arrive today as originally expected. George Weltner, head of Paramount International; Clement S. Crystal, theatre department head, and James M. Franey, head of United World Films, are among film industry executives aboard the British Queen liner. Among passengers on the *America* are: Mary Martin, Eugenia Leontovich and P. G. Wodehouse, British writer.

The *Elizabeth,* according to reports yesterday, is now due tomorrow morning, while the *America* is expected to dock Saturday.

Theatre Thievery

INDIANAPOLIS, April 23.—Theatre safes were bait for thieves here as one set succeeded in cracking the safe at the Cinema, taking $2,000, while another crew were halted by police from opening the safe at the Strand neighborhood theatre, which also lost $1,000 in a safe-cracking on Feb. 16.

Golden, Kruse

(*Continued from page* 1)

tered by pointing out that "certain countries" have indicated that they do not care to exhibit pictures "depicting our way of life, since it might show advantages of this country, and promiscuous exportation would only have these countries showing films depicting less favorable aspects of the American way of life." He also indicated that the U. S. backlog of 1,200 films gives the MPEA a wide range of subjects from which to choose, as well as to satisfy the wants of all foreign countries.

The mounting emphasis upon the employment of films as an educational medium formed the hub of speeches also delivered today by L. Mercer Francisco of Francisco Films, Chicago; Eddie Albert (in absentia), actor and head of Eddie Albert Productions; and Dr. W. A. Wittich, president of the department of audio-visual instruction of the National Education Association. Wittich, who will be presented with a "pioneer scroll" by A. G. Petrasek, of RCA's 16mm. film equipment section at tomorrow's SMPE session, called upon major companies to forego the profit motive, if necessary, in order to produce films for school purposes. Not only would it be a social contribution to this country as well as a good-will gesture, Wittich remarked, but the companies would also be making school children film-minded, assuring the companies of future audiences.

Francisco spoke on "Psychology of Sound Films," while the subject of Albert's message, delivered by Remy L. Hudson, president of Eddie Albert Productions, because Albert was detained in Hollywood, was "Educational Films for a Democratic Tomorrow."

FCC Puts WORL, Boston, Off Air

WASHINGTON, April 23.—The Federal Communications Commission today ordered station WORL off the air and allowed the Boston station a temporary license until August 31, 1947, to wind up its affairs. The action was taken because large blocks of stock in the station were transferred without reporting to the FCC.

The FCC will take no action before June 1 on any application for the facilities to be vacated by WORL.

Senator Myers

(*Continued from page* 1)

ture Advertisers at the Hotel Astor.

Senator Myers, principal speaker at the affair, which also represented a tribute by AMPA to film company presidents, praised the industry for its advertising technique. Motion picture advertising, he said, "has been learning not to cry 'wolf' over a turkey, so that when it does have an outstanding production it has not used up all of its superlatives on lesser accomplishments. That is all to the good, and I trust the trend will continue," he added.

Eugene Thomas also Speaks

In addition to Senator Myers, the gathering heard Eugene S. Thomas, president of the Advertising Club of New York, discuss television as a "new advertising medium." Coast-to-coast television service, he predicted, should be a reality within five years. "The 25,000 television sets now in use in the U. S. should be increased to 400,000 by next Christmas; to 1,000,000 by that time a year later and to 25,000,000 10 years from now—according to indications of surveys."

Rutgers Neilson, retiring AMPA president, who presided at the occasion, was presented with a gold watch by incoming president Arnold Stoltz in behalf of the AMPA membership. Stoltz was inducted into office, as were Phil Williams, as vice-president; Max Stein, treasurer, and Marguerite Wayburn, secretary.

Howard Dietz, Loew vice-president, was member-guest master-of-ceremonies. In welcoming him to the microphone, Neilson presented Dietz with an AMPA citation for the "Best Exploitation Stunt of the Year," referring to the giving of an acre of land in New Mexico to some 450 editors and publishers on behalf of M-G-M's "Sea of Grass."

Souvenir Journal

A souvenir journal was presented to each guest, containing greetings received from President Truman, New York's Governor Dewey, and Mayor O'Dwyer of New York City.

Dietz read to the gathering several wires and cables of anniversary congratulation which were received by AMPA from various parts of the world. Senders included J. Arthur Rank, President Miguel Aleman of Mexico, Mary Pickford, Fredric March, Tallulah Bankhead, Ann Sheridan, Eddie Cantor, and scores of others.

The affair climaxed what AMPA describes as "an active and highly successful year." In his speech of welcome, Neilson paid tribute to all previous AMPA presidents and to the committee in charge of the dinner-dance, headed by Phil Williams.

The latter part of the evening featured dancing, with Art Stanley and his Hotel Astor orchestra supplying the music.



FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 81 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 1947 TEN CENTS

UJA

¶ *A ragged, hungry, homeless orphan child, alone in a cold, hostile country.*

¶ *A mother with fear in her heart, terrible memories of horrors behind and dread uncertainty ahead, frantic with anxiety for those left of a shattered family.*

¶ *A husband and father, broken and in tatters, deep in the desperation of the need and suffering of those whom he would save, protect and nurture — and hardly a glimmering of hope before him in the terrible aftermath of war.*

Any of these vignettes make an understandable figure to any of us. The individual, child, mother or father, or all of them, we can visualize. Meeting any of them in living contact, we would instantly reach to extend a helping hand. The demand of charity, the call of human sympathy, would be immediate, compelling.

But the picture becomes a blur of statistics when it comes multiplied, like dots on a map, in the figures of the multitude represented by the 300,000 Jews in the Displaced Persons camps of Europe and the hundreds of thousands of others who are dependent upon American mercy for survival.

To see and understand we must think of that unhappy child, the frantic mother, the desperate father, as individuals — people, even as you and I; people with a right to live, to some small share of care and comfort. We must sweep away the columns of figures, the impersonal statistics, to realize that the call upon our human obligations is the aching need of that child, that mother, that father.

The story of the United Jewish Appeal tells us that the need is multiplied several hundred thousand times. That is why so many of us must give generously of our resources so that the many who are to be rescued from a hell of hate and want and desperation shall not await in vain their rescue.

MARTIN QUIGLEY

RKO Profit of $12,187,805 Is 100% Rise

Equal to $3.17 a Share; Theatre Income Cited

A consolidated net profit for 1946 of $12,187,805, which is more than double the previous year's profit of $6,031,085, was announced for Radio - Keith - Orpheum Corp. by president N. Peter Rathvon in his annual report to stockholders yesterday.



N. Peter Rathvon

Rathvon said the 1946 result was a substantial improvement over any other year in the company's history in both gross revenue and earnings.

Gross receipts from distribution attained a record volume of $72,966,727.

(Continued on page 8)

Decree Affects Only 25% of RKO Houses

More than 75 per cent of the theatres operated by RKO are unaffected by the partnership dissolution provision of the New York Court's decree in the industry anti-trust suit, N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, said yesterday, in his annual report to stockholders. In the case of the 25 per cent affected, he said, negotiations are either pending or have been concluded, looking toward acquisition of outside interests or disposal of RKO's interests.

Brooks to Direct 'M.P.H.' Round Table

Walter Brooks, veteran showman, has been appointed director of The Round Table department of *Motion Picture Herald*. He will assume his

(Continued on page 8)

MPF Elects 11 at Washington Meeting

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Eleven charter members were elected today to the Washington exchange area committee of the Motion Picture Foundation. Elected were: John J. Payette, Warner Brothers; Sam Galanty, Columbia; John Allan, M-G-M; Julian Brylawski, Carter Barron and Sidney B. Lust, Washington theatremen; Lawrence Schanberger and Lauritz C. Garman, Maryland; John Di Fiore, Delaware; William M. Crockett and Morton G. Thalheimer, Virginia.

The 11 will elect six more, and from the 17, a national trustee will be elected within a week, according to Brylawski, today's chairman.

"The Motion Picture Foundation is the most magnificent edifice yet to be erected in the industry," Louis A. Novins, assistant to Barney Balaban, said as chief speaker at the meeting.

"New Orleans"

[*Jules Levey-United Artists*] — You'll Tap Your Toes

JULES LEVEY, who once sold 'em and now makes 'em, has a whale of a good show in this story dealing with the birth of jazz and its spread to parts far and near. The idea is hardly new, but memory dictates that rarely has it been handled with such warmth, believability and aliveness.

The story surrounding the pivotal idea, moreover, is very serviceable and lacking in the artificialities which have hampered predecessors drawn out of the same pattern. It is quite probable that the answer is to be found, not so much in the original, as written by Elliot Paul and Herbert J. Biberman, as in the script which was written by the former and Dick Irving Hyland, plus the smoothness of the direction, capably contributed by Arthur Lubin. But, whether in solo or in combination, the principal factors identified with the making of "New Orleans" have managed to avoid banality.

In fact, they have been quite successful in rounding out their handiwork with a constant flow of good touches. This attraction is tops in the

(Continued on page 5)

House Group Votes End of Building Curbs

Material Shortages Would Restore Amusement Ban

WASHINGTON, April 24. — The House Banking and Currency Committee today approved a bill ending all commercial construction curbs. However, at the last minute it included an amendment giving the Government power to require a permit for construction of buildings for amusement purposes if a government agency certifies that there is, or there is likely to be, a building material shortage. Theatres are presumably included.

The Civilian Production Administration has been growing more liberal in issuing permits for the construction of new theatres in so-called "hardship cases," having issued about 30 such permits within the past month.

20% Tax Cut Before Mid-1948 Unlikely

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Chance of a reduction of the 20 per cent U. S. admission tax before mid-1948 is nil, according to present tax plans of Republican leaders. And even then, there's no guarantee of any cut, it is said.

Until recently, sentiment among House tax planners seemed to favor an overhauling of excise taxes, in-

(Continued on page 8)

U-I Sales Officials Start Field Visits

Universal-International's top product will be the subject of talks set to begin this weekend by William A. Scully, distribution vice-president, and his entire home office sales staff in visits to key cities for discussions with field representatives, and to make personal contact with exhibitors. Scully

(Continued on page 8)

In This Issue

"Hit Parade of 1947" is reviewed on page 5.

Key city grosses are given on page 9.

Personal Mention

CHARLAS SCHWARTZ, United Artists director and member of the law firm of Schwartz and Frohlich, is in Hollywood from New York.

•

ALEXANDER WEINSTOCK, owner of the Midway, Greenpoint, L. I., and MRS. WEINSTOCK, became parents of a baby daughter on April 20, born at Physicians Hospital, Jackson Heights. The baby's grandfather is BEN WEINSTOCK of Raybond Theatres.

•

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal-International Eastern advertising-publicity director, returned to New York yesterday from the Coast. HANK LINET, who accompanied him Westward, will return later.

•

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, 20th-Fox president, and MURRAY SILVERSTONE, 20th-Fox International president, will arrive in New York from Havana tonight.

•

JEROME ADAMS, recently named M-G-M's Washington, D. C., branch manager, was married yesterday to Mrs. Oroline McKeever Oyster there.

•

CLAIRE MANNHEIMER, secretary to C. K. STERN, Loew's assistant treasurer, will leave New York today for a vacation at Miami and Havana.

•

GRADWELL SEARS, United Artists vice-president in charge of distribution, has postponed his planned trip to London indefinitely.

•

LEONARD SPIGELGASS, Paramount writer, will leave Hollywood on Monday for New York en route to England.

•

RICHARD P. MORGAN, of Paramount's home office legal staff, left New York yesterday for Los Angeles.

•

JULES LEVEY left here yesterday for New Orleans and will return on Monday.

SMPE's 62nd Meet To Be Held in N.Y.

CHICAGO, April 24.—The 62nd semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers will be held in New York at the Hotel Pennsylvania, starting Oct. 24, with theatre engineering the keynote. The SMPE plans to inaugurate exhibits of theatre equipment at the next convention.

Meanwhile, the Theatre Equipment Supply and Manufacturers' Association, headed by Oscar F. Neu, feeling that SMPE's plan to have theatre exhibits might infringe on its own exhibits, a policy inaugurated some years ago, held a board meeting here today in the hope of discouraging SMPE's plans. TESMA's contention is that SMPE should confine its sessions to discussions of technical matters.

Johnston to Testify On Trade Agreement

Washington, April 24.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, will testify on Thursday, May 1, before the House Ways and Means Committee in defense of the reciprocal trade agreement program. The House group has been conducting hearings on the program for several weeks.

Withdraw 'Outlaw' Motion to Reargue

Howard Hughes' extended legal ourney with New York City license commissioner Benjamin Fielding and olice commissioner Arthur W. Wallander over their threat to revoke licenses of exhibitors who show his 'The Outlaw" appeared yesterday to e in its final stage with the withlrawal by counsel for Hughes of a notion for reargument of an earlier notion for dismissal of defense arguments. Only a successful appeal of New York Supreme Court Justice Bernard Shientag's ruling, upholding the right of city officials to revoke a license and prosecute an exhibitor for showing an indecent picture, could lead to an upset in the city's action and a lifting of the ban on the picture.

While indicating that the action in Supreme Court yesterday clears the way for an appeal, a spokesman for Hughes said that a decision in that connection has not yet been made. He indicated that action may be taken "within a few days."

Shientag's ruling, handed down on April 3, was made specifically on the plaintiff's motion for a declaratory judgment to restrain Fielding and Wallander from continuing the ban imposed several months ago here.

Producers, Analysts Agree on Contract

HOLLYWOOD, April 24.—Major producers today reached a contract agreement with the Screen Story Analysts Guild and a bargaining agreement with Building Service Employes Local No. 278.

Meanwhile, two meetings between a joint committee representing the Association of Motion Picture Producers, the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers and the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, on the one hand, and the Screen Actors Guild on the other, will be held here tomorrow to continue contract negotiations.

Republic Board Is Formulating Policy

Company policy is being "amicably formulated" by the recently elected board of directors of Republic, it was announced yesterday following a regular meeting of the board here by Herbert J. Yates, president and chairman of the board.

John Paine Services To Be Held Here

Funeral services for John G. Paine, 57, general manager of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, who died in Detroit suddenly late Wednesday evening, will be held at the Frank E. Campbell Funeral Home, here, at noon tomorrow.

Apparently in good health, Paine died of a cerebral hemorrhage after delivering an address to the National Federation of Music Clubs in Detroit. At the time of his death he was engaged in a projected plan to revise upward the music licensing rate structure for theatres. He had planned to meet with theatremen on this within a few days, and only recently met with Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, on the matter.

Survivors are his wife, and a son, Robert G. Paine.

Honorary pallbearers at the services will include: Stanley Adams, Fred E. Ahlert, Louis Bernstein, Saul Bernstein, Gene Buck, Irving Caesar, Frank H. Connor, Paul Cunningham, Max Dreyfus, Donald Gray, Oscar Hammerstein II, Otto A. Harbach, Ray Henderson, John Tasker Howard, A. Walter Kramer, Edgar Leslie, George W. Meyer, Jack Mills, John O'Connor, Abe Olman, Lester Santley, Gustave Schirmer, Herman Starr, Deems Taylor, Herman Greenberg, Richard F. Murray, George A. Hoffman, Fred Erdman, Julius Collins, Herman Finkelstein, Daniel I. McNamara, Dr. Rudolf Nissim, Louis D. Frohlich and Charles Schwartz.

Paine's background included associations with various film and allied companies, dating back to 1913, when he joined the Victor Talking Machine Co. He left Victor in 1927 to join Warners, where he remained until 1930. At that time he went to the Music Publishers Protective Association, and in 1937 switched to ASCAP in the general manager's post.

A specialist in copyright law, Paine is said to have appeared in more than half of the states of the country in behalf of ASCAP. He was decorated by the French government in 1939, and in 1943 he was cited for "outstanding service to American music," by the National Association of American Composers and Conductors.

Milner Adds City

SALT LAKE CITY, April 24.—Sam Milner, Producers Releasing Corp. Coast district manager, has added the branch here to his district.

Pickford, Cowan Set 7 Films at 15 Millions

Hollywood, April 24.—Producer Lester Cowan disclosed today that Artists Alliance Productions, in which he is associated with Mary Pickford, will make seven pictures, costing $15,000,000, in the next two years. United Artists is expected to distribute.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Claudette COLBERT Fred MacMURRAY
"THE EGG AND I"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION the

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
TRAIL STREET
starring Randolph SCOTT • Robert RYAN
Anne JEFFREYS • George "Gabby" HAYES

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
SPENCER TRACY • KATHARINE HEPBURN
M-G-M's
'THE SEA OF GRASS'
IN PERSON
GEORGE GIVOT
BENAY VENUTA
Plus OTHERS

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTEN • ETHEL BARRYMORE
in "The Farmer's Daughter"
An RKO Radio Picture
A DORE SCHARY Production
RIVOLI
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.
B'way at 49th St.

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

ALAN LADD
CARL RUSSELL
WILLIAM BENDIX in
"CALCUTTA"
A Paramount Picture
in Person
DUKE ELLINGTON
And His Orchestra
GOLDEN GATE QUARTETTE
COKE & POKE
and BUCK & BUBBLES
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

CHARLES CHAPLIN
IN
"MONSIEUR VERDOUX"
A Motion Picture that will STARTLE you!
Released thru United Artists
BROADWAY THEATRE B'way at 53rd

Cornel WILDE - Maureen O'HARA
'THE HOMESTRETCH'
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE—HAZEL SCOTT - The BARRY'S - CARL RAVAZZA - HENNY YOUNGMAN
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

"...A FILLY THAT DOESN'T TAME EASY...LONG-LIMBED AND DEEP THROUGH THE HEART!"



There's no thrill like the thrill of Cornel Wilde and Maureen O'Hara in "THE HOMESTRETCH" in Technicolor!



A glorious romance
that hits all the high spots
of the world . . . set against the
breathless excitement of the
world's most famous racing classics!

CORNEL WILDE
MAUREEN O'HARA

THE HOMESTRETCH

IN TECHNICOLOR

with

Glenn Langan · Helen Walker

James Gleason · Henry Stephenson
Margaret Bannerman · Ethel Griffies · Tommy Cook

Directed by **BRUCE HUMBERSTONE**

Produced by **ROBERT BASSLER** · Original Screen Play by Wanda Tuchock

THERE'S NO COMPANY WITH SUCH GREAT TECHNICOLOR TRIUMPHS AS

BOB, SON OF BATTLE *In Technicolor* • **FOREVER AMBER** *In Technicolor* • **MOTHER WORE TIGHTS** *In Technicolor*
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW *In Technicolor* • **CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE** *In Technicolor*

20th CENTURY-FOX

PRINTED IN U. S. A.

Exhibitor-Producer Meet Seen on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, April 24.—The selection of Los Angeles by Variety Clubs International for its annual convention, May 13-17, "provides an unparallelled chance for exhibitor members to discuss problems with producers," Samuel Goldwyn said here today.

He added that it is "timely because [illegible]ing box-office returns have indicated for some time now that the gold rush is over and that the gravy train has come to the end of the line. This," he continued, "does not necessarily mean that the industry is facing depression. It does mean, however, that to maintain prosperity, both producers and exhibitors must reexamine their methods and work together more intelligently than ever before to prevent a recession that could be serious," he continued.

Concluding, Goldwyn said: "It is once again a buyers' market, not a sellers', and people who buy tickets are now shopping for their entertainment."

Paramount to Give Variety Luncheon

LOS ANGELES, April 24. — Henry Ginsberg, Paramount studio head, will give a luncheon on May 16 for delegates attending the annual convention of Variety Clubs International, here. Paramount has invited several of its stars to be on hand. The luncheon will be at the Ambassador Hotel.

Alperson in Deal With Joe E. Brown

CHICAGO, April 24.—Joe E. Brown, now winding up his run in the stage play, "Harvey," here, has been signed by Edward L. Alperson, head of Alson Productions, to play the lead role of a minister in the film "Tender Years."

This is one of two pictures to be made this year by Alperson, to be released through 20th Century-Fox. The second will be "The Big Curtain."

Alperson flew here from the Coast to close the deal and then left by air for New York, where he will spend several days before returning to the Coast. Accompanying Alperson here was Jack Jungmeier, Jr., co-producer and writer of the original story of "Tender Years." Also here were Harold Schuster, who will direct, and Blake McVeigh, publicist. All flew back to Hollywood today.

US, Canada RMA Meet Opens in New Jersey

ABSECON, N. J., April 24.—Radio manufacturers of the United States and Canada began discussion of mutual problems and interests today as directors of the Radio Manufacturers Associations of the two countries opened their fourth joint industry conference. The American manufacturers are hosts to the Canadians at the two-day meeting, which was highlighted tonight at a reception by U. S. RMA president R. C. Cosgrove, of Cincinnati, and a dinner at the Seaview Country Club.

Vance King Named

HOLLYWOOD, April 24.—Vance King, former trade journalist and publicist, has joined Four Leaf Clover Pictures as story editor, according to president Ed Scofield. King will also supervise publicity and advertising.

"New Orleans"

(*Continued from page* 1)

musical idiom it is dramatizing, first-class in its atmosphere and representative in the acting department.

Arturo de Cordova and Dorothy Patrick are the estranged lovers, but it is Louis Armstrong, the widely-known and popular Negro jazz impresario, who comes through as the individual standout. He has a personality to support his amazing horn and, of course, he has a band which backs his leadership to the complete hilt. He and they are thoroughly expert with their rhythms.

THE time is 1917 when the new form of music, compounded out of the hummings of the workers on the levees and the river boats, et al, was never admissible in polite society. De Cordova runs Basin Street where Armstrong holds forth. Miss Patrick, young heiress headed for the concert stage, falls in love with De Cordova and Armstrong's music. But her mother, Irene Rich, has different plans and succeeds in engineering Basin Street and its attractions out of business. De Cordova settles in Chicago, abandons gambling for the development of jazz while Miss Patrick nostalgically tours European concert halls. His respectability established, Miss Rich relents and serves to bring her daughter and De Cordova together, their reunion also symbolizing the blending of the new music form with its classical relation.

Musically, "New Orleans" is a tinkling, toe-tapping affair from start to finish. Whereas Armstrong holds forth well into the second half, Woody Herman carries on the rest of the way with the expected combination of the staid and the "hot" in music at the finish. Incorporated is a second and minor romance between Armstrong and Billie Holiday, designed to give the latter an opportunity to do a series of vocals. It is a legitimate enough excuse and fits into the proceedings without jarring anyone's credulity. Key number is "Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans" by Eddie De Lange and Louis Alter, who also wrote "Blues Are Brewin'" and "Endie." Cliff Dixon and Bob Carleton co-authored "Where the Blues Are Born in New Orleans," the remaining two of the six principal songs being "Mahogany Hall Stomp" and "Farewell to Storyville."

"NEW ORLEANS" looks like a field day for 'teen-agers and others oldster-youngsters who insist, or prefer, that their "licks" be plenty hot. Generally, it is a solid show steeped in entertainment and one that ought to deliver a very good account of itself in all kinds of theatres. Biberman, part author of the original story, also served as associate producer.

Running time, 89 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 18.

RED KANN

"Hit Parade of 1947"

(*Republic*)

A BIT of frolic and a diverting succession of tunes has been added to a familiar story of a quartet of entertainers trying to get to the top. The foursome in this instance is Eddie Albert, Constance Moore, Joan Edwards and Gil Lamb. To give added popularity to the merchandise, there are pleasant guest appearances from such Republic stalwarts as Roy Rogers and Trigger, Bob Nolan and the Sons of the Pioneers and also Woody Herman and his orchestra. The film flows along easily and is aimed at escape and relaxation.

The team appears to be getting along well in a nightclub act when Albert, a songwriter, decides to introduce some ultra-sophisticated lines. Bounced from the job, hardships become their lot, until Miss Moore decides to accept an invitation to Hollywood and takes the group with her. The arrangement does not work out in this Mary Loos screenplay and Miss Moore remains in Hollywood while the others pursue diverse trails. As things happily eventuate, all make the grade, with Miss Moore finally united with Albert in a surprise finish that has Miss Edwards putting over Albert's song on the Hit Parade radio show.

Gil Lamb as the comedian and romantic partner of Miss Edwards, endows his role with lavish vitality, helping the story along in its moments of obvious development, while Miss Edwards sings several numbers with exciting voice. Several resplendent production numbers give the film an additional polish. Frank McDonald was associate producer and director.

Running time, 90 minutes. General audience classification.

MANNY HERBSTMAN

High Court Ruling For Lea Act Asked

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The Justice Department today asked the Supreme Court to uphold the Lea Act, the so-called anti-Petrillo law, as Constitutional.

A 172-page statement asked reversal of a District Court decision, claiming that the law was designed to curtail the alleged "monopoly power" of labor organizations interfering with effective use of broadcasting facilities.

National Anthem Bill

PHILADELPHIA, April 24.—A bill introduced in the state legislature by Sen. Anthony J. DiSilvestro of this city would require the "Star-Spangled Banner" to be played before all performances in theatres.

3 Are Named to House Petrillo Committee

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Members of a three-man sub-committee of the House Education and Labor Committee have been appointed to investigate the activities of James C. Petrillo as head of the American Federation of Musicians. On the committee are Representatives Kearns, Barden and Nixon. No date has yet been set for the start of the inquiry.

Orlob Here Next Week

Harold Orlob, stage and screen producer-writer, is due here from the Coast next week to complete arrangements with Eve Wygod, Fifth Avenue hairdresser, for a picture based on her original story idea about the beauty business.

AMG Moves to Aid German Pictures

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Two steps to help rebuild the German film industry have been ordered by the American Military Government, according to a cable from Berlin received here this morning by the War Department. They are:

To export appropriate German films in order to maximize export proceeds, and to import studio construction material or film production equipment and material even at the cost of foreign exchange where an advantageous export usuage can be demonstrated.

The double-headed decision to revitalize German's motion picture industry was reached at a meeting between Major Gen. W. H. Draper, Jr., then director of the economic division of AMGUS, now economic adviser to the military governor; Sir Cecil Weir, president of the British economic subcommission; and Brig. Gen. R. B. McClure, director of the information control division of AMGUS.

New Theatre Code Loses in Missouri

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., April 24.—A modernized building code for new theatres, sponsored by State Senator Charles L. Madison of Kansas City, has been killed in the Missouri legislature. Madison said that its defeat kept in effect "a horse-and-buggy law" being violated by 95 per cent of existing theatres. An amendment to apply the modernized safety code to old as well as new theatres was voted down just before the defeat of the bill.

A public hearing on a proposed state film censorship measure will be held in the state capital on April 30.

Sennett Reissues May Go on S. R. Market

With Universal-International still undecided about signing to distribute 26 Mack Sennett shorts for reissue, J. J. Balaber, local producer, who holds the rights to approximately 150 Sennett two-reelers, indicated yesterday that he may go ahead with his own plans to distribute the comedies in state-right deals.

Delay in U-I's decision, it is understood, arises from a delay in reports from the company's exchange in Dallas, where the Interstate Circuit is conducting audience tests of the shorts.

Balaber, Parker Signed

Grand International Pictures has assigned J. J. Balaber and B. R. Parker to handle the production and direction, respectively, of "Hidden Menace," the company's first feature release, to be made in the East.

William R. Sheeky is executive director of the newly-formed producing-distributing organization.

Odlums Get Tax Rebate

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Floyd B. Odlum, Atlas Corp. president, and his wife, Jacqueline Cochran Odlum, received a $62,114.45 refund on 1945 taxes yesterday.

Penna. Censor Quits

PHILADELPHIA, April 24.—Mrs. Lucy H. Love, secretary of the Pennsylvania Board of Censors, has resigned after serving eight years.

Do you know what it means t

There's great busines

NEW ORL



World Premiere APRIL 26

Saenger Theatre, NEW ORLEANS

and one hundred other great situations!

Watch the business that means business!

JULES LEVEY presents

ARTURO DE CORDOVA • DOROTHY PATRICK in

"NEW ORLEANS"

with MARJORIE LORD • IRENE RICH

JOHN ALEXANDER • RICHARD HAGEMAN

LOUIS ARMSTRONG and HIS BAND and BILLIE HOLIDAY

WOODY HERMAN and HIS ORCHESTRA

ORIGINAL NEW ORLEANS RAGTIME BAND

Louis Armstrong • Zutty Singleton • Barney Bigard

Kid Ory • Bud Scott • Red Callendar

Charlie Beal and Meade Lux Lewis

Screenplay by Elliot Paul and Dick Irving Hyland

From an original story by Elliot Paul and Herbert J. Biberma

Produced by JULES LEVEY • Directed by ARTHUR LUB

MISS New Orleans?

...when you play...

EANS



LOUIS ARMSTRONG
and HIS BAND
and BILLIE HOLIDAY

Here's business from U A

TBA to Protest Ban On House Antennae

The Television Broadcasters Association is awaiting full details of the New York City Real Estate Board's objections to TBA's interim plan for television antenna installations before the video group submits a formal protest of the realtors' action.

The TBA plan would provide for numerous antenna devices that would permit "thousands of New York families living in apartment houses to enjoy a television service "until a master system could be installed. TBA states it has "informally learned" that the temporary plan had not won the approval of the real estate board.

The association further states that at least three companies are working on master antenna systems. It is understood that the realtors are insistetn that only the master antennae be installed on their apartment house rooftops, and many have notified tenants not to operate television sets without permission because of the antenna problem.

To Omit Objections To Copyright Meet

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Film industry objections to the Inter-American Copyright Convention will not be contained in the State Department's report, according to Dr. Luther Evans, Librarian of Congress and chief U. S. delegate to the copyright meeting.

Dr. Evans stated that the report is now completed, "subject to a little more editorial review," and should be forwarded to the President in about a week or 10 days.

"We have stated only the affirmative arguments for the convention in our report," Dr. Evans said. "We have defended them against some of the attacks, and so it is only very indirectly that the industry objections will be noted."

Motion picture and radio leaders have indicated they would take their fight against the convention to Congress, placing their case before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

E-L Promotes Wollins

Donald J. Wollins has been appointed assistant field exploiteer in the Boston territory for Eagle-Lion by Max E. Youngstein, E-L advertising-publicity director. Wollins has been on the press book staff for the past year. In Boston he will work with Joe Mansfield.

Aids Salvation Army Drive

PHILADELPHIA, April 24.—William F. Brooker, Paramount exploiteer, has been named chairman of the motion picture division for the Salvation Army maintenance fund drive. The goal here for this year is $750,000, of which $15,000 has been asked from the local film industry.

Goldsmith Back with WB

Jack Goldsmith, Navy veteran who was on Warner's southern field staff before the war, has joined WB's home office publicity staff, announces Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity.

Says Films Do Not Aid Delinquency

Hollywood, April 24.—Addressing the National Convention of the American Metropolitan School Superintendents, Dr. Vierling Kersey, superintendent of Los Angeles schools, said, "Our experience has shown that motion pictures are not a significant factor in juvenile delinquency. The industry is doing a fine job in eliminating scenes that would have destructive influence upon children.

"Although the Production Code helps in avoiding scenes that could be harmful to children, there is no mistaking the responsibility of both parent and teacher to aid a child in selecting appropriate films, just as parents and schools guide children in selecting proper books, plays, magazines and recreation," he observed.

PCC to Hold Annual Meeting on May 13

HOLLYWOOD, April 24.—The Permanent Charities Committee will hold its annual meeting on May 13 to elect new officers and to vote on disposition of $275,783 allocated to the Red Cross and the Infantile Paralysis Foundation but rejected by those charities. All 54 constitutent unions and guilds are required to approve disposition of the money.

The Hollywood Coordinating Committee has announced formation of the third 10-star troupe to stage benefits in Southern cities for the benefit of Texas City disaster victims.

Hugh James on Telenews

Hugh James, radio-film announcer, has been named chief narrator for *The Telenews Digest*, new newsreel, the first issue of which will appear here starting Wednesday.

U-I Field Visits

(*Continued from page* 1)

will visit Washington tomorrow and Sunday, heading for Charlotte in the following two days.

Product to be discussed includes: "The Egg and I," "Odd Man Out," "Great Expectations," "Time Out of Mind," "Buck Privates Come Home," "Ivy," "Brute Force," and "Slave Girl."

A. J. O'Keefe, assistant general sales manager, will leave here Sunday for Los Angeles, while E. T. Gomersall, assistant to Scully, is slated to depart today for Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis and Detroit. C. J. Feldman, Western division manager, left New York yesterday for Kansas City, with Omaha, Des Moines, Denver, Salt Lake City and the West Coast included on his itinerary.

Also scheduled to leave New York Sunday is F. J. A. McCarthy, Southern and Canadian manager, who will visit Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Atlanta, St. Louis, Memphis, New Orleans, Dallas and Oklahoma City. Fred Meyers, Eastern division manager, will cover Boston and has Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Albany, Buffalo and New Haven marked for visits.

Nine RKO Directors Up for Reelection

The annual meeting of RKO Radio stockholders will be held in Dover, Del., on June 4, to elect directors for the ensuing year.

The company is soliciting proxies, recommending reelection of present directors and the reappointment of Price, Waterhouse and Co. as auditors.

Directors up for reelection are: Ned E. Depinet, Harry M. Durning, Frederick L. Esrman, L. Lawrence Green, L. Boyd Hatch, Floyd B. Odlum, N. Peter Rathvon, George H. Shaw, and J. Miller Walker.

Puerto Rico Bills Would Cut Taxes

By E. SANCHEZ ORTIZ

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, April 21. (By Airmail).—Legislation has been introduced in the Senate to eliminate the two-cent per foot tax on all film imports when such films constitute second prints of films for exhibition.

Another bill seeks the amendment of the Internal Revenue Act to reduce from 20 per cent to 15 per cent the tax on all cameras, projectors, parts and accessories, all cinematographic machines and other photographic articles.

Tax Cut Unlikely

(*Continued from page* 1)

cluding the admission tax, as soon as the income tax reduction bill was disposed of. Now the idea is to get going on a revision of the entire tax structure, including income taxes, excises, corporation taxes, and other levies.

Some members of the House Ways and Means Committee see hearings for four or five months, with action expected on a bill soon after Congress reconvenes next year. Senate hearings will run equally long, and then a drawn-out conference fight is seen, with slim possibility of getting a bill passed before summer of 1948.

As to whether that over-all revision will do anything about admission taxes, the furthest anyone would commit himself was: "Your guess is as good as mine."

Brooks Appointed

(*Continued from page* 1)

new post on Monday following his return from a Midwestern trip.

For the past three years Brooks was with M-G-M as assistant to H. M. Richey, director of that company's exhibitor relations department. In that capacity he attended and addressed exhibitor meetings and other industry gatherings in all parts of the country.

Brooks was first identified with the industry in theatre and roadshow work. He became advertising-publicity director of Educational Film Exchanges, later becoming production manager and assistant to the president. He was associated with Eddie Dowling, subsequently, in film, stage and radio activities. During the early period of the war he was associated with the office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs. He joined M-G-M in 1944.

RKO's 5-Year Tax Bill: $25,409,000

During the past five years RKO paid $25,409,000 in Federal taxes alone, according to president N. Peter Rathvon's report to stockholders.

In 1942, RKO's profit, after taxes of $734,000, was $736,240; in 1943 the profit was $6,964,004, after $6,000,000 in taxes; in 1944 there was $5,206,378 profit, after $5,545,000 in taxes; 1945's $6,031,085 profit was arrived at after deducting $5,740,000 in taxes, and last year's record profit of $12,187,805 was reached after a deduction of $7,390,000 in taxes.

RKO Profit

(*Continued from page* 1)

The producing and distributing subsidiary and the theatre operating subsidiaries made approximately equal contributions to the 1946 profit, Rathvon said.

Although gross revenues and theatre operating profits have continued at a high level thus far in 1947, Rathvon said, consolidated earnings will be considerably less for the first quarter of this year than in the comparable period last year, due in substantial part to a higher percentage of independent pictures in distribution (as distinguished from RKO's own productions) and to the fact that in the same period of last year returns were being received from "The Bells of St. Mary's."

RKO's aggregate working capital now exceeds $40,000,000. It has no funded debt. At the end of 1946 RKO Theatres, Inc., had reduced to $20,400,000 its three per cent debentures issued early in 1946 in the original amount of $22,000,000 to refund previously existing theatre funded debt. Banking debt of RKO Radio Pictures, Inc., under its revolving fund credit arrangement was $2,500,000 on April 15.

Since RKO intends to build up inventory of feature pictures to a further moderate extent, an expanded five-year revolving fund credit is currently being negotiated, he added.

Concerning foreign operations, Rathvon reported that, although current collections are well ahead of last year, shortage of dollar exchange in most foreign markets indicates that transfers from many countries may be even more difficult than in 1946.

Stockholders were advised that directors deemed no longer necessary and authorized elimination (by return to capital surplus as of December 31, 1946) of the $4,155,205 balance of a general reserve created in the original amount of $5,000,000 on the books of the parent company incidental to the reorganization in 1940.

According to the report, the company's current working assets total $59,375,325, against current liabilities of $19,303,391. Total assets amount to $106,361,725. Income for 1946 was $120,125,633. Expenses amounted to $99,182,124. Total earned surplus as of Dec. 31 amounted to $22,519,551.

Screen Guild-Audio Deal

HOLLYWOOD, April 24. — Screen Guild Productions has signed a distribution contract with Ferenz H. Fodor's Audio Pictures for a minimum of two films.

Production in Hollywood Remains at 39

HOLLYWOOD, April 24.—For the third week in succession, the number of pictures in work totals 39, as six [illegible] were started and another six went to cutting rooms. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Destiny," "Sweet Genevieve."

Started: "Two Blondes and a Redhead," with Jean Porter, Jimmy Lloyd, June Preisser, Judy Clark; "Smoky River Serenade," with Billy Williams, Paul Campbell, Ruth Terry, Hoosier Hot Shots.

Shooting: "Son of Rusty," "Blondie in the Dough," "The Man from Colorado," "Assigned to Treasury" (Kennedy-Buchman).

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: "Love from a Stranger."

M-G-M

Shooting: "The Pirate," "Good News."

Monogram

Shooting: "The Hunted," "Song of the Wasteland."

Paramount

Finished: "The Big Clock."

Started: "Whispering Smith," with Alan Ladd, Robert Preston, Brenda Marshall; "Shaggy" (Pine-Thomas) with Brenda Joyce, Robert Shayne.

PRC

Finished: "Gas House Kids Go West."

Shooting: "Bury Me Dead," "Ghost Town Renegades."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Memory of Love," "Dick Tracy vs. the Gruesome Gang," "Mourning Becomes Electra," "Fighting Father Dunne," "Tycoon."

Republic

Shooting: "Robin Hood of Texas," "Along the Oregon Trail," "The Outcast."

Screen Guild

Shooting: "Dark Bullet" (Fortune).

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie."

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Captain from Castile."

Started: "The Foxes of Harrow," with Maureen O'Hara, Rex Harrison.

Shooting: "Kiss of Death," "Scudda Hoo, Scudda Hay."

United Artists

Started: "Untitled Hopalong" (Hopalong Cassidy Productions).

Shooting: "Atlantis" (Nero).

Universal-International

Finished: "Brute Force" (Hellinger).

Shooting: "Singapore," "Something in the Wind," "Secret Beyond the Doors" (Diana); "Lost Moment" (Wanger).

Tradeshow Dates Set For Three by MGM

M-G-M will tradeshow three new pictures in May: "Cynthia," in Los Angeles and New York on May 12 and elsewhere on May 15; "Fiesta" in Los Angeles and New York on May 19 and elsewhere one day later; "Romance of Rosy Ridge" on May 26 in New York and Los Angeles and all other exchanges a day later. "Gone With the Wind" will be re-tradeshown at the New York exchange on Monday.

Release dates have not yet been set for any of the films.

Film Interests Seek Cleveland Church

CLEVELAND, April 24.—Out-of-town film interests are trying to lease the Euclid Ave. Baptist Church for a first-run downtown theatre. Delegates of the Baptist Church Association, representing 31 churches, are unable to reach a decision on the offer and have postponed final word on the deal for 30 days pending a poll of the congregations of the Association's member churches.

Under the plan, Sunday services would still be held in the reconverted church.

Files Patent Suit

A patent infringement suit has been filed in U. S. District Court here by Ernest Stern against RKO Radio, charging violation of a sprocket patent for sound projection. The plaintiff seeks an injunction and accounting of profits, presumably from 1935 when, Stern says, he notified RKO of his patent. The company continued to employ the sprocket after the notification, he alleges.

Name RKO Drive Winners

Winners of first quarter prizes in the "Phil Reisman Four Seasons Drive," named in honor of RKO Radio's vice president in charge of foreign distribution, are: China, managed by Arno Kerske; Switzerland, headed by Armand Palivoda; Brazil, Art Simon; Cuba, Pedro Saenz; Adelaide, Bill Downs and Hubert McNally's branch in Dublin.

Meet on Conservation

KANSAS CITY, April 24.—A public hearing will be held on Monday, before the State Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, on the matter of possible limitation of air conditioning equipment operation in Kansas City because of the necessity of conserving power.

Carolina House Burns

JACKSONVILLE, N. C., April 24.—All equipment was destroyed in a fire at the Onslow Theatre here, of which Otis Strickland is manager. The 520-seat house was serviced by Everett Enterprises of Charlotte.

Reopen Bucklin Theatre

BUCKLIN, KANS., April 24. — The DeLuxe theatre, operated by Dorothy Johnson, has reopened after being closed for redecorating and improvements.

Warners

Shooting: "Treasure of the Sierra Madre," "Whiplash," "Voice of the Turtle," "Two Guys from Texas," "Wallflower."

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

BOSTON

Variable weather ranging from very warm to cold and rainy took its toll at box-offices here. Business continued uneven in the Hub. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 23:

THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE (RKO Radio)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show, Frankie Carle and orchestra. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $31,000)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox) — FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $5,100. (Average: $6,500)

SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I) and JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG (20th-Fox)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c) 5 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $27,200).

THE IMPERFECT LADY (Para.) and FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY (Col.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $25,500. (Average: $26,000)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA) and BLONDIES HOLIDAY (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) and BACKLASH (20th - Fox) — PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $13,200. (Average: $14,900)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.) — STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $17,000)

BUFFALO

The weather here has been cold, and inclued an April snowstorm. Better-than-average business was demonstrated by "The Sea of Grass" and Smash-Up." Estimated receipts for the week ending April 26:

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,000)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 1st week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $10,000)

SMASH-UP (U-I) and SECRET OF THE WHISTLER (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 1st week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000)

TO EACH HIS OWN (Para.) and WILD WEST (PRC)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 1st week, re-engagement of "To Each His Own." Gross: $5,800. (Average: $6,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.50) 5th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average at regular prices of 40c-50c-60c-70c: $16,000)

ST. LOUIS

The police circus, playing to 8,500 when it opened a 15-day nightly and four-a-week matineed schedule in the Arena, affected first-run grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 23:

SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I) and MAGNIFICENT ROGUE (Rep.)—AMBASSADOR (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $18,500. (Average: $17,800)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $20,000)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA) and SUSIE STEPS OUT (UA)—LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $19,500. (Average: $20,000)

KIT CARSON (PRC reissue) and THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS (PRC Reissue)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,900)

BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS (WB) and THE BRUTE MAN (PRC)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,500)

MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION (U Reissue) and 100 MEN AND A GIRL (U Reissue) ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $12,400)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—SHUBERT (2,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.20) 2nd week, on a moverover from 3 weeks at the St. Louis. Gross: $8,500. (Regular admission prices: 40c-60c)

KANSAS CITY

It rained several days with temperatures mostly mild to cool. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 23:

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 3rd week. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $1,750)

JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.) and FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY (Col.)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000)

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,000)

THE SEA HAWK (WB Reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB Reissue)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—TOWER (2,100) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.50) 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average at regular prices: $9,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,000)

OMAHA

One first-run did record business, two others were better than average. The $18,100 mark set by the 1,200-seat RKO-Brandeis was an all-time house record. The film was "The Best Years of Our Lives," at advanced prices. Weather was warm and mostly fair. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 23-24:

THE BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS (WB) and SHADOWED (Col.) split with **PURSUED (WB) and BORN TO SPEED (PRC)**—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 2nd week for "Pursued," on a moveover from the Paramount. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,500)

THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $10,900. (Average: $9,300)

PURSUED (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c) 5 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,600)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RKO-BRANDEIS (1,200) (Advanced prices: 74c-$1.20). Gross: $18,100. (Average at regular prices: $6,600)

MINNEAPOLIS

Balmy weather and the opening of the baseball season did not help business, which was mostly below average. "Best Years of Our Lives," in its sixth week, is still holding up strongly. Estimated grosses for the week ended April 24:

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c) 3rd week (moved from Radio City). Gross: $6,800. (Average: $7,300)

KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Col.)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: $3,800. (Average: $3,400)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 5th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,600)

DEAD RECKONING (Col.)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,500)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RKO PAN (1,500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.50) 6th week. Gross: $13,500. (Average at regular prices of 50c-70c: $8,500)

STALLION ROAD (WB)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $13,000)

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Mar. 29	WEST OF DODGE CITY (Rev. 3/14/47) KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Rev. 3/14/47)	(March Release) BEGINNING OR THE END Brian Donlevy Robert Walker D—112 mins. (Rev. 2/19/47)	TRAILING DANGER Johnny M. Brown O—58 min. (676) (Rev. 3/26/47)		PHILO VANCE RETURNS William Wright Ramsey Ames	(April 1 Releases) HOMESTEADERS OF PARADISE VALLEY TWILIGHT ON The RIO GRANDE O—71 mins. (Rev. 4/21/47) YANKEE FAKIR D—71 min. (Rev. 4/7/47)	(Block 4) TRAIL STREET Randolph Scott Robert Ryan O—84 mins. (Rev. 2/20/47) THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE Lawrence Tierney D—62 mins. (Rev. 2/27/47) BEAT THE BAND Frances Langford M—67 mins. (Rev. 2/24/47) CODE OF THE WEST James Warren O—57 mins. (Rev. 2/21/47) THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER Loretta Young Joseph Cotten C—97 mins. (Rev. 2/19/47)	(March Releases) BACKLASH Richard Travis Jean Rogers D—66 mins. (Rev. 3/20/47) ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (Reissue) M—105 mins. (Rev. 5/26/38) (April Releases) THE LATE GEORGE APLEY Ronald Colman Peggy Cummins C—98 min. (Rev. 1/31/47) CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA Dick Haymes Vera-Ellen M—95 min. (Rev. 3/25/47) SAN DEMETRIO, LONDON Walter Fitzgerald Mervyn Johns D—76 min. (Rev. 4/1/47) (May Releases) THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR Rex Harrison Gene Tierney HOMESTRETCH Cornel Wilde Maureen O'Hara D—96 mins. (Rev. 4/18/47) JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG Richard Travis Micheline Cheirel D—64 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)	(Hopalong Cassidy) UNEXPECTED GUEST William Boyd O—61 min. (Rev. 12/12/46) (Hughes) THE SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK Harold Lloyd C—89 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47) (Jules Levey) NEW ORLEANS Arturo de Cordova Dorothy Patrick (Enterprise) RAMROD Joel McCrea Veronica Lake O—94 mins. (Rev. 2/21/47) (Comet) ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (Color) Richard Martin Frances Rafferty D—65 mins. (Hunt Stromberg) DISHONORED LADY Hedy Lamarr John Loder D—85 mins. (Hopalong Cassidy) DANGEROUS VENTURE William Boyd O—59 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47) (Sam Coslow) COPACABANA Groucho Marx Carmen Miranda M—92 mins.	(March Releases) (Reissue) DESTRY RIDES AGAIN O—93 mins. (Rev. 11/30/39) (Reissue) WHEN THE DALTONS RODE O—81 mins. (Rev. 7/30/40) SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (Color) M—196 mins. (Rev. 1/30/47) SMASH-UP Susan Hayward D—103 mins. (Rev. 2/5/47) MICHIGAN KID (Color) O—69 mins. (Rev. 2/11/47) STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (Color) David Niven Raymond Massey D—104 mins. (Rev. 12/17/46) (April Releases) BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME Abbott-Costello C—77 mins. (Rev. 3/10/47) YOU CAN'T CHEAT AN HONEST MAN (Reissue) W. C. Fields C—73 mins. (Rev. 2/20/39) I STOLE A MILLION (Reissue) George Raft Claire Trevor D—78 mins. (Rev. 7/18/39) (May Releases) TIME OUT OF MIND Phyllis Calvert Robert Hutton Ella Raines D—88 mins. (Rev. 3/7/47) DARK WEBB Edward O'Brien Ella Raines William Bendix THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay (Reissue) MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION Irene Dunne Robert Taylor (Reissue) 100 MEN AND A GIRL Deanna Durbin Leopold Stokowski	THAT WAY WITH WOMEN Sydney Greenstreet Martha Vickers C—85 mins. (Rev. 2/14/47)
April 5	BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—67 mins. (Rev. 2/27/47)	(April Releases) IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN Frank Sinatra Jimmy Durante C—103 mins. (Rev. 3/3/47) LITTLE MR. JIM Butch Jenkins James Craig D—94 mins. (Rev. 6/10/46) THE SEA OF GRASS Spencer Tracy Katherine Hepburn D—125 mins. (Rev. 2/13/47)	SIX GUN SERENADE Jimmy Wakely	MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE Bob Hope Dorothy Lamour C—87 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)							STALLION ROAD Ronald Reagan Alexis Smith Zachary Scott D—97 min. (Rev. 3/19/47)
April 12	(April Releases) GUILT OF JANET AMES Rosalind Russell Melvyn Douglas D—81 mins. (Rev. 3/5/47)		VIOLENCE Nancy Coleman Michael O'Shea		PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE Alan Curtis Frank Jenks THE BIG FIX James Brown Noreen Nash WEST TO GLORY Eddie Dean	BELLS OF SAN ANGELO Roy Rogers Dale Evans					
April 19	FRAMED Glenn Ford Janis Carter Barry Sullivan D—82 mins. (Rev. 3/5/47)		HIGH CONQUEST Anna Lee Warren Douglas D—83 mins. (Rev. 3/13/47)			SPOILERS OF THE NORTH Paul Kelly Adrian Booth					
April 26				THE IMPERFECT LADY Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—97 mins. (Rev. 3/10/47)	FRONTIER FIGHTERS RAIDERS OF RED GAP PANHANDLE TRAIL CODE OF THE PLAINS THUNDERGAP OUTLAWS SHOOTIN' IRONS						(Reissue) THE SEA HAWK Errol Flynn Claude Rains (Reissue) THE SEA WOLF Edw. G. Robinson Ida Lupino
May 3	FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson D—69 mins.	(May Release) HIGH BARBAREE Van Johnson June Allyson D—91 min. (Rev. 3/13/47) UNDERCOVER MAISIE Ann Southern Barry Nelson C—90 min. (Rev. 3/4/47) (Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)	LAND OF THE LAWLESS J. Mack Brown Raymond Hatton (Reissue) QUEEN OF THE YUKON Charles Bickford Irene Rich	BLAZE OF NOON Anne Baxter William Holden D—90 mins. (Rev. 3/4/47)			(Block 5) HONEYMOON Shirley Temple Franchot Tone C—74 mins. (Rev. 4/16/47) TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS Johnny Weismuller O—72 min. (Rev. 3/20/47) BORN TO KILL Lawrence Tierney D—92 mins. (Rev. 4/21/47) A LIKELY STORY Barbara Hale Bill Williams C—88 mins. (Rev. 4/21/47) BANJO Sharyn Moffett Una O'Connor D—67 min. (Rev. 4/21/47)			(Reissue) LOVE AND LEARN Jack Carson Robert Hutton C—85 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)
May 10	(May Releases) LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) D—77 mins. GUNFIGHTERS (Color)		HARD BOILED MAHONEY Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall C—63 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)		RIDERS OF RED ROCK (Eagle-Lion) RED STALLION Robert Paige Ted Donaldson	OREGON TRAIL SCOUTS Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min.					
May 17	BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY Ron Randell D—70 mins.		SARGE GOES TO COLLEGE Alan Hale, Jr.		(Eagle-Lion) REPEAT PERFORMANCE Joan Leslie Louis Hayward	WINTER WONDERLAND Lynne Roberts Charles Drake D—71 min.					
May 24	LAW OF THE CANYON Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette		BACKFIRE Johnny Mack Brown								THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS Humphrey Bogart Barbara Stanwyck D—100 min. (Rev 4/1/47)
May 31	THE MILLERSON CASE Warner Baxter PRAIRIE RAIDERS Charles Starrett	THE YEARLING Gregory Peck Jane Wyman D—134 min. (717) (Rev. 11/27/46)	SONG OF THE WASTELAND Jimmy Wakely	CALCUTTA Alan Ladd Wm. Bendix D—83 min. (Rev. 4/16/47)							
June 1											

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Dram. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.]

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 82 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, APRIL 28, 1947 TEN CENTS

MGM Open for Handling of Outside Films

But Demands Control of Sales Policies, Terms

M-G-M is expected to maintain an "open door" policy on outside product, based on a yardstick of size and quality. The probability is that only a few attractions will be acquired on this basis, the complete control of sales policies and terms going to the distributor.

As in the instance of "Gone With the Wind," when David O. Selznick, the producer, and M-G-M jointly worked out the selling formula which the distributor thereafter put into effect without producer control, last week's deal with Walter Wanger on the Ingrid Bergman film dealing with the life of Joan of Arc is expected to follow along these lines. The film will be made by Wanger off the Metro lot and turned over to the distributor for handling.

The situation on "State of Union"

(*Continued on page 6*)

M-G-M Sales Parley To Discuss Decree

Discussion of the New York Federal Court's anti-trust decree will hold the spotlight today at the opening of M-G-M's first full-fledged sales conference since the start of World War II. William F. Rodgers, sales head, will welcome more than 115 home office and field executives to the first of a series of meetings which will continue throughout the week and will be climaxed by a banquet next Sunday night, with Margaret O'Brien and

(*Continued on page 6*)

'U-I' in Reissue Deal Abroad: Seidelman

Alluding to "an important deal on reissues" concluded in London, Joseph Seidelman, president of Universal's international subsidiary, returned here Friday aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth* after a six-week trip to London and Paris to set exhibition dates for

(*Continued on page 6*)

Schine Case Moves Ahead

Willard McKay, attorney for Schine Theatres, and the Department of Justice are near a decision on what part of the Buffalo Federal Court's record and exhibits in the Schine anti-trust case is to be printed for the U. S. Supreme Court, where appeal of the decision against Schine is now pending, McKay states.

Testimony and exhibits presented at the trial are said to be as voluminous as those of the New York equity case against the eight distributors. In the latter case, the Department agreed to have printed only its own analysis of the exhibits with the record, at an estimated cost of $10,000.

In the Schine case, however, no such analysis has been made and Schine must bear the entire cost, it is said.

Meanwhile, McKay is preparing to present argument in behalf of the appeal before the Supreme Court in the event the case reaches the bench before adjournment. The high court usually adjourns during the last week of May but last year, which was a rare exception, it stayed in session until the middle of June.

MPA Documentaries Start This Week

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Production will start this week on the first of what the Motion Picture Association hopes will be a series of one-reel "Screen Editorials," according to Edward Cheyfitz, assistant to Eric Johnston, MPA president.

The initial film, on the production effort in the United States, will be

(*Continued on page 6*)

See Chicago as MPF National Meet Site

After all currently-progressing Motion Picture Foundation area organizational meetings are consummated, the organization's national trustee meeting will be held "in a centrally-located city," probably Chicago, it was indicated here at the weekend.

Although May 12 has been mentioned as the tentative date of the national organizational meeting, the time is again indefinite and depends upon the replies from inquiries for suggestions sent to local representatives in the field.

Para. Sales Drive Starts August 31

Paramount Pictures' 1947 sales drive, which will be conducted under the title "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership," was announced here on Friday by Charles M. Reagan, distribution vice-president. The sales contest will start on Aug. 31 and end on Nov. 29. The first week will be "Paramount Week."

Selznick Subscribes To Confidential

The Selznick Releasing Organization has become the 10th subscriber to Confidential Reports, Inc., with the checking agency's service to begin with "Duel in the Sun," according to Neil Agnew, SRO president. Leonard Case, SRO assistant secretary, it is understood, will represent SRO on Confidential's board.

"Welcome Stranger"

[*Paramount*] — 'Going My Way' — with Doctors

Hollywood, April 27

HOLLYWOOD wisecrackers refer to this picture as "Going My Way" done with doctors, but it is a reference of esteem, for this second pairing of Bing Crosby and Barry Fitzgerald is as congenial, warming and commercially promising as the first. It is, as was its predecessor, a plain and wholesome story about a young man and an old man brought together in their calling under circumstances as natural as the emotional tension that builds up, endures for a while, and then is dissipated, this time without tragic end.

The scene is a New England town, the time the present, and the picture gives an audience the recently rather rare privilege of leaving the theatre glad to have gone, uplifted a little in spirit, instead of worn out and depressed, and minded to tell friends to go and see Bing and Barry

(*Continued on page 7*)

RKO Plans to 'Hold the Line' On Film Bids

Limited Mostly to Bid Areas Previously Set

Following sales and legal conferences at the home office, RKO Radio has adopted a policy under which the company will seek to "hold the line" on competitive bidding, limiting it to those situations where that type of film licensing already has been introduced. It is understood that there are about 25 such situations.

The company plans to extend bidding only "where favorable," one spokesman said, explaining that this would be only in competitive areas where theatres yielding about equal rental revenue insist on a run. In those instances bidding would be considered the most feasible means of settling any dispute.

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer similarly seeks to limit its bidding operations to situations where they had previously been in effect.

McIntosh Is Named Aide to Albright

WASHINGTON, April 27.—J. Stanley McIntosh, of Evanston, Ill., has been appointed assistant director of the Motion Picture Association's department of educational Services, by MPA president Eric Johnston. Roger Albright is head of the MPA's edu-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Cites 'Unnecessary' Labor Requirements

WASHINGTON, April 27. — "Excessive jurisdictional subdivisions" in the industry have "increased unnecessarily its manpower requirements in the industry," according to an article in the current *Monthly Labor Review,*

(*Continued on page 6*)

In This Issue

"The Trouble with Women" and "Citizen Saint" are reviewed on page 7.

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO Radio president, DORE SCHARY, executive vice-president, and PERRY LIEBER, director of studio publicity, are scheduled to leave the Coast by train for New York on Wednesday.

•

MAURICE BESSEY, Quigley Publications correspondent in Paris, and editor-manager of the *Consortium de Presse Cinematographique,* arrived in New York from France over the weekend. He will visit Hollywood, Mexico City, Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires before returning to Paris.

•

BERNARD FELDMAN of Warners' 16mm. department, and MRS. FELDMAN, are parents of a baby boy, born last week at the Prospect Heights Hospital, Brooklyn.

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CLINTON J. SCOLLARD, Paramount executive, left Hollywood for New York at the weekend, following negotiations with Los Angeles film exchange workers.

•

WALT DISNEY has been awarded a special citation by the Community Chests of America in recognition of "outstanding services" to the organization.

•

JACK GIBBONS, formerly with National Screen Service in Des Moines, has joined PRC as salesman in Omaha.

•

CHARLES O'BRIEN, Loew's director of industrial relations, was in Baltimore from here over the weekend.

•

SAM WOOD, producer-director, has left Hollywood for New York and Washington en route to Russia.

•

W. R. ADKINS of Sheldon, Ia., has purchased the State Theatre, Hudson, S. D., from J. L. Walker.

•

ROBERT HELMS, home office representative for RKO Radio, is visiting Atlanta.

Gallup Plans Film Service in England

On behalf of Audience Research, Inc., Dr. George Gallup, president, will meet with film industry leaders in England to make arrangements for the immediate start of a motion picture research service there in the manner which ARI originated in the United States.

Dr. Gallup, who sailed for England Saturday, announced his resignation as vice-president of Young and Rubicam, Inc., in order to devote full time to the ARI and his American Institute of Public Opinion.

Gallup will be gone approximately five weeks. Gallup will attend a world conference of researchers in England, with members of his affiliated organizations from 12 countries meeting for discussions.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THIS department receives some unusual correspondence from time to time.

For example, last week there came a written complaint from one of Confidential Reports' "F. R.'s." An "F. R.," we are informed, is a "field representative," or checker, to you.

His complaint is that he isn't seeing enough of the world, stuck in that little home town of his by home office policy.

"I am writing to you," he explains, "because our (C. R. I.'s) magazine, *The Tally,* does not have a complaint department. Also, thought you might be able to do something about getting the policy relaxed."

Brother, we've been trying to get that policy relaxed for some time but our influence with Johnny O'Connor, Dr. Isidor Lubin and Jack Levin, appears to stop somewhere well this side of an achievement of that kind.

•

"At first I was given assignments in two adjacent towns," says our letter-writer, "had eight assignments in five months. Now, however, I have not had even one assignment in the past four months. I wished to make sure that I had been competent so I made a trip to the branch office. They assured me that my work had been fine but that the home office did not like to have F. R.'s go out of their home towns. I was told F. R.'s had been hired in the two towns adjacent to mine. That leaves me without work for the year except for maybe a fill-in or two.

"Do you not agree with me that most firms would not hire others to take the place of one who was doing competent work?

"Most theatre managers do not like local men checking their theatres. They would rather have out-of-town men and, with the small additional cost involved, I think Confidential could allow them this. As it is now, only those F. R.'s in the larger cities can receive any substantial number of assignments from Confidential."

O. K., *Tally.* You take it from here.

• •

The untimely death last week of John G. Paine, general manager of the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers, inevitably will delay further immediate consideration by the society of its study of increases in the theatre music tax rate. Because of his position as business head of Ascap, all moves leading up to a change in the society's established license fees were under his direction. Naturally, furtherance of the proposal is likely to wait upon the naming of his successor.

Ascap has insisted that no formal scale of new license fees for theatres is in existence; that it believes the present fees are inequitably distributed and stand in need of revision — but, of course, a revision which would increase Ascap's collections. Paine had planned to seek meetings with organized exhibitor representatives within the next week to broach the subject and open discussions of it.

•

There are two rather obvious approaches which might be employed in the absence of a formal scale of new license fees drawn up for negotiation with exhibitors. One is the always successful procedure of capitalizing upon exhibitor disunity and pitting the so-called small theatres against the large ones in a sort of "soak-the-rich" movement. The other, is to marshal whatever exhibitor unity may be available within organized ranks and enlist it in a frontal attack upon the producer-distributor. In other words, let the latter pay the music tax.

Either course would be short-sighted insofar as exhibition is concerned, and only Ascap would stand to benefit from the choice, whichever it might be.

Even though the large theatre were to be soaked more, the little theatre still would have to pay its way. The Federal consent decree under which Ascap is operating prohibits it from rate discrimination among licensees.

Were a higher rate to be established for large theatres, either Ascap itself might invoke the no-discrimination decree clause and boost the rates of the smaller theatres, too, or be compelled by the government to do so.

On the other hand, if it were possible to transfer the performance fee from the exhibitor to the producer-distributor, the exhibitor would wind up paying the bill in the form of increased film rentals, with bookkeeping charges added.

The exhibitor appears to have but two sensible courses open to him: determined resistance to any increase in the present rates or a concerted battle to the finish to rid himself of the tax once and for all.

Newsreel Parade

THE destruction of Helgoland and the reconstruction of Stalingrad are spotlighted in current newsreels. Princess Elizabeth's birthday message, sports and personalities are among other items included. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 69—Campaign starts for bringing prices down. Nazi stronghold of Helgoland blown up. Stalingrad today. King Paul of Greece. Future Queen of Britain comes of age. Sports for kids: fishing and yachting. Moviet cameraman enters gorilla's cage.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 267—Helgoland blasted off the map. Princess Elizabeth, in birthday message, pledges life to Empire. New England town declares war on high prices. Stalingrad today rebuilds for the future. Flying bomb hits target at 150 miles. Adelaide Hawley film spotlight: Margaret O'Brien.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 70—Midget racers burn up speedway. Geneva group maps world trade plan. First pictures: Stalingrad today. South Africa: Royal Family on tour. Death of an island—British dynamite Helgoland.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 72—Uncensored film of Stalingrad. Princess Elizabeth's pledge to the Empire. Newburyport reduces prices. Trade conferences in Geneva. Kids run own theatre. Blast destroys Helgoland.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 33—Famed German island of Helgoland demolished by tons of explosives. Reconstruction of Stalingrad. Ceremonies saluting new King of Denmark. Cardinal Spellman appeals for needy. UN trade group meets at Geneva. Kids try luck at Passaic fishing contest. Chicago tumbling champs.

'Duel' Censor Trouble In Penna. and Ohio

Loew's has cancelled bookings of David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" in Pittsburgh, Reading and Harrisburg, where it was set for May 8 openings because the Pennsylvania censor board is withholding a certificate of approval, presumably pending changes.

The Ohio board is similarly withholding approval. No dates had been set in that state, however.

Memphis Censor Board Bans Fifth Film in a Few Days

MEMPHIS, April 27.—RKO Radio's crime film, "Born to Kill," has been banned by this city's board of censorship, the *Commercial Appeal* reports, marking the fifth rejection in recent days. The others were: "Duel in the Sun," "The Macomber Affair," "Destry Rides Again" and "When the Daltons Rode."

Novins To Address Boston MPF Meet

BOSTON, April 27.—Lou Novins, assistant to Barney Balaban as chairman of the Motion Picture Foundation's temporary steering committee, will address the Foundation's Boston area organization committee meeting to be held here on Tuesday.

M. J. Mullen and Sam Pinanski will serve as temporary chairmen at the meeting, which will elect a permanent chairman and a committee and trustee.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Coming Events

April 28-May 3—M-G-M sales meeting of division, district and branch managers and bookers, Hotel Astor, New York.

April 28—Variety Club of Illinois testimonial dinner for retiring Mayor and Mrs. Edward J. Kelly, Continental Hotel, Chicago.

April 29—New York Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith dinner in honor of retiring president Jack H. Levin and in welcome of its new president, Robert M. Weitman, Hotel Astor, New York.

May 5-6—Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska meeting, Omaha.

May 5—Testimonial to Sidney E. Samuelson, general manager, Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania, Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia.

May 5—Motion Picture Foundation area meeting in Omaha.

May 5-8—Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Exhibitors, Los Angeles.

May 5-7—India Film Conference, New York.

May 6-9—Paramount executives and theatre partners meeting to discuss New York Federal Court decision, Arrowhead Springs, Cal.

RKO Tradeshows Set For Four Pictures

RKO Radio Pictures will hold a trade showing of "They Won't Believe Me" on Monday, May 12, at the Normandie Theatre, New York. This picture, as well as "Dick Tracy's Dilemma," will be screened on the same day at the company's 32 exchange centers. "Woman on the Beach" and "Thunder Mountain" will be shown on May 13, and "Desperate" on May 14.

The exceptions to the above schedule are St. Louis, where all will be shown on the following day in each case, and Washington, which will show "Thunder Mountain," "Dick Tracy's Dilemma" and "Woman on the Beach" on May 13, and "They Won't Believe Me" and "Desperate" on May 14.

One-Third of British Loan Is Drawn Upon

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Great Britain will have drawn $1,900,000,000 of her $3,750,000,000 U. S. loan by the end of June, the U. S. Budget Bureau reports. The British have advised the Treasury that they expect to use $800,000,000 in the current quarter, ending June 30. In the nine-month period commencing last July 1, $1,100,000,000 was withdrawn.

Withdrawal of another $1,200,000,000 is anticipated for the year starting July 1, but Treasury officials admit this rate of withdrawal may be "accelerated."

Max Weinstein Funeral

CLEVELAND, April 27.—Funeral services were held here on Friday for Max P. Weinstein, 37, one of the owners of the Ritz Theatre, who died on Thursday after a six-year illness.

Gosh! We Weren't Even Trying

Mysore City, India, April 27.—*Motion Picture Daily* was voted the world's best daily film trade paper for 1946 by the India Film Journalists Association, Faqir Mohammed, president of IFJA, has announced.

Other annual awards of the Association went to Tyrone Power, most popular star, and Turhan Bey, the "handsomest." Honor scrolls inscribed by members of the Indian press will be awarded at Bombay at a date to be set.

Warner Engineers To Hold 2-Day Meet

A two-day meeting of zone sound engineers for Warner Theatres will be held at the home office today and tomorrow, presided over by Nathan Levinson, head of sound activities at Warner's Coast studio, and Frank E. Cahill, Jr., director of sound for Warner Theatres. Topics to be discussed include late developments in sound equipment, modernization of projection booths, and the general improvement of sound quality.

Sound men from the various zones who will attend include: J. V. Cole, Albany; G. R. Beck, Milwaukee; R. H. Giles, Cleveland; C. J. Bachman, Newark; C. P. O'Toole, New Haven; W. J. Charles and Henry Eberle, Philadelphia; P. J. DeInvernois, Pittsburgh; J. A. Pratt and D. Ferguson, Washington; Joe Florio, New York, and Ernest Royls, head of sound for Warners in Great Britain.

Following the home office meeting, the zone chiefs will hold meetings of the sound crews in their respective areas. The circuit's entire sound staff numbers more than 60.

Interior Dept. Films Unaffected by Cut

WASHINGTON, April 27. — The House Appropriation Committee's 50 per cent cut in Interior Department funds will not affect the department's film activities much, a department official said. Films of the Bureau of Mines, chief film distributing section in the department, are financed by private industry, he explained. The budget provided only for funds for distribution of the films, and this money has not been cut.

One or two films planned by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service may have to be cancelled if the cuts stand, the spokesman stated. Most of the other Interior divisions have not asked for film funds since the start of the war.

Louis Jackson Seeks Canadian Agreement

LONDON, April 27.—Louis H. Jackson, executive producer of Lady Yule's British National, was scheduled to fly to New York over the weekend to promote a joint English-Canadian production scheme whereby exteriors of British quota pictures would be shot in Canada with Canadian stars.

U.S. Favors Export Of German Films

WASHINGTON, April 27.—The State Department approves the decision of Allied Military Government authorities in Berlin to permit exporting of carefully screened films as a means of rebuilding the German film industry, a Department official states here.

"The industry falls well within the terms of the Potsdam Agreement," he stated.

It was said that the release of any films made before the end of the war will be screened, probably eliminating all but technical and educational films, and that the British have already adopted such a policy on a large scale in their zone. As for the future film program, he added, information received recently placed the 1947 schedule at only seven feature films, and later news indicated even this goal would not be reached.

The official declared the State Department regards the development of the German film industry as "inevitable," and figures it might as well be developed while there is still strict supervision on the part of the democratic nations.

Meanwhile a War Department spokesmen declared as "greatly exaggerated" reports of 80 to 200 German films ready for export, and predicted the total would not be "even a small fraction" of such a figure.

'Carnegie' Tax-Free Under Chile Rating

The Boris Morros-William LeBaron production of "Carnegie Hall" has been classified by Chile to be admitted into the country duty-free, United Artists has been informed, according to an announcement by Walter Gould, foreign manager, here. The special classification means the film will also play in Chilean theatres free of all taxes.

The government will sponsor the simultaneous premiere of the film today at the Central Theatre, Sanitago, and the Valparaiso Theatre in Valparaiso. Proceeds of the Sanitago opening will be turned over to charity. Furthermore, government agencies will inaugurate a campaign on the film directed to schools, libraries, newspapers, musical organizations, cultural groups, etc. Arnoldo Binder, UA manager in Chile, has informed the home office that the Chilean government will at a later date award a special medal to "Carnegie Hall" for "extraordinary artistic and cultural excellence."

PRC Names Diamond Manager in Phila.

Sam E. Diamond has been named Philadelphia branch manager for Producers Releasing Corp. by Ralph H. Clark, general sales manager. He will assume his new duties today.

Diamond, a veteran of the industry since 1931, when he joined Universal's home office staff, remained with that company until 1933, when he became ad sales manager for 20th Century-Fox. In 1935, he became Baltimore sales representative for 20th, remaining there until 1945, when he was transferred to Philadelphia, handling the New Jersey and Allentown territories. Early last year he was named Philadelphia branch manager for 20th Century-Fox, resigning to join PRC.

Would Have Screen Depict Floor Plans

Providence, April 27.—The Rhode Island Senate has passed and has sent to the House a bill that would compel exhibitors to flash on their screens for 30 seconds a diagram of theatre floor plans as a safety measure. The diagram would appear on the screen at every performance.

Clearance Reduced In Albany Award

ALBANY, N. Y., April 27.—In a change of clearance embodied in a consent award signed before William K. Sanford, arbitrator, Schine's Pontiac Theatre, Saranac Lake, and the Palace, at Lake Placid, operated by Adirondack Theatre Corp., will have seasonal open booking from Dec. 24 to Feb. 15 and from June 15 to Sept. 15, while the Pontiac will have three days' clearance for the remainder of the year.

Brought by Ernest Dodds of Adirondack Theatre Corp. against M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox, Warner, RKO Radio and Paramount, the case was settled by a consent award signed by Leonard Rosenthal, Adirondack counsel, and Howard Antevil, of Schine's. It is the first arbitration action here in more than a year.

Hope Joins Variety Texas City Appeal

Bob Hope, Paramount star, in response to an appeal by R. J. O'Donnell, Texas show-business leader and head of Variety Clubs International, has made arrangements to appear with his radio troupe at three benefit performances in Texas for relief of the Texas City disaster sufferers and their families. The performances are scheduled for May 21, in the Will Rogers Memorial Auditorium, Ft. Worth; May 22, at the State Fair Park Auditorium, Dallas, and May 23, at the Civic Auditorium in San Antonio.

Ticket sales are being handled by the Variety Clubs of Texas in conjunction with local universities.

Oregon Owners Plan Benefit Stage Show

PORTLAND, Ore., April 27.—Oregon exhibitors will sponsor a benefit show at the Mayfair Theatre here on May 8 to aid the Shrine Hospital for Crippled Children. Herb Royster is manager of the theatre, which is owned by J. J. Parker's Hamrick-Evergreen Theatres. Theatrical Stage Employes Local 28 will pay stage hands and other technicians from its treasury for the benefit.

Local Tax Measure Fails in Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY, April 27.—Another attempt to push a local tax bill through the Oklahoma legislature has failed as the House of Representatives killed a measure advocated by Oklahoma City officials. The bill would have applied only to this city, permitting a referendum on a one per cent sales tax, in addition to the present two per cent state levy.

THE COLDEST KILLER A WOMAN EVER LOVED!





The screen's "Dillinger" in his toughest bullet-man role—as a sinister savage who lived his boast that "Nobody cuts in on me—on anything!"... The bold, biting drama of a man of murderous evil and his kind of woman—even "deadlier than the male!"

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PHILLIP TERRY • AUDREY LONG

Produced by HERMAN SCHLOM • Directed by ROBERT WISE
Screen Play by EVE GREENE and RICHARD MACAULAY

NATIONALLY ADVERTISED
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RKO RADIO PICTURES

Heavy Play for US Films in Holland

By PHILIP DE SCHAAP

AMSTERDAM, April 22 (By Airmail). —The policy of the U. S. Motion Picture Export Association, as demonstrated since it first began to release here, is to release as many pictures in as many theatres as possible, even in small houses. MPEA pictures are running now in every Dutch town of importance. Even second-run theatres are playing MPEA product first-run.

The purchase of the important Asta Theatre at The Hague by the MPEA was accomplished some time ago and the theatre will be exploited under the MPEA banner.

During the 52 weeks from Sept. 1, 1946, to Sept., 1947, exhibitors are allowed to release 28 American pictures and 24 from other countries. Because there is no domestic production of any importance, independent distributors are buying from many markets: British, French, Swedish, Danish, Russian, Italian and Mexican.

An important number of American pictures have been brought into Holland by independents who purchased them on open American markets from companies not MPEA members. It should be emphasized that MPEA product is not only finding competition from European product—particularly English—but also from other American product.

During 1946, Holland imported 497 features, divided this way: U. S., 197; England, 137; France, 95; Denmark, 17; Sweden, 17; Russia, 13; Switzerland, nine; Belgium, four; Italy, three; Czechoslovakia, two; Norway, one. The number of American pictures to be imported during 1947 will be considerably larger.

Although decreasing during 1947 and still showing a decline in 1947, theatre attendance shows an improvement in comparison with pre-war years.

Bankrupt Chile Film Studios To Reopen

SANTIAGO, Chile, April 21 (By Airmail).—Chile Films, one of the nation's most important film enterprises, has gone bankrupt. The studio, in existence three years, was backed by the Corporation de Fomento de la Produccion, CORFO, a governmental department. CORFO will assume ownership of the studios and reopen them under a new name and will look for new private capital.

A new enterprise, Artistas Chilenos Asociados, has announced it will begin making pictures here in April.

Phila. Theatre Sold

PHILADELPHIA, April 27. — The Bijou Theater, this city's first amusement house to show motion pictures, has been sold by J. Prescott Stoughton to Race Street Co., Inc. for $139,700. It will continue showing films.

The Bijou was opened in 1889 by B. F. Keith and was the city's vaudeville center until 1902 when Keith opened the Chestnut Street Theater.

Newspaper Curbs Ads

LOWELL, MASS., April 27. — The *Lowell Sun* is omitting national advertising and limiting local display advertisements to two days a week because of the newsprint shortage.

Egypt's Nationalism Hits Foreign Films

WASHINGTON, April 27.—The growing tide of Egyptian nationalism threatens a serious cut in the market for foreign films in Egypt, according to a study released by Nathan D. Golden, motion picture consultant of the U. S. Commerce Department.

The study states that, although theatres charge as much as 50 per cent higher admission prices when showing Arabic films, attendance is much greater. Of the 180 houses in Egypt, 118 now show Arabic films exclusively, according to the Commerce Department, and no foreign films are shown at all in provincial theatres where a few years ago foreign films often had good runs. The study quotes local distributors of American films as also complaining that censorship is becoming increasingly severe.

Legendre-Trincher Is Building 14th House

CHARLOTTE, April 27. — The Legendre-Trincher Circuit will build its 14th theatre in the Carolinas in this city at a cost of $75,000. Morris Legendre of Aiken, S. C., says that the theatre will have a capacity of 1,000.

Pickford Sues Actress

HOLLYWOOD, April 27.—Mary Pickford Corp. has filed suit against actress Dorothy Hart for $79,387, allegedly spent on preparation for "There Goes Lona Henry," in which Miss Hart was to appear under a contract allegedly signed August 18, 1945.

U-Seidelman in Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

"The Egg and I." He added that he would make an announcement today on ramifications of the reissue agreement.

Alfred E. Daff, Universal vice-president, who was to have accompanied Seidelman on his return, will arrive today by plane, Seidelman revealed. He also disclosed that "The Egg and I," which opened at the Music Hall in New York on Thursday, will begin an extended run May 3 at the New Gallery Theatre in London. The picture has been booked to run throughout the summer, until its general release in August.

George Weltner, head of Paramount International, and Clement S. Crystal, theatre department head, also returned on the boat on Friday after a seven-week trip that took them around the globe on Weltner's first complete survey of Paramount's interests in key foreign points since he assumed office approximately one year ago. In addition, James M. Franey, head of United World Films, U-I subsidiary, arrived.

When the ship began its return voyage to Britain on Saturday, a large contingent of motion picture personnel shipped out, including: Walter Selzer, publicity manager for Paramount's Coast studios; Allen Dulles, New York lawyer, whose firm represents the Motion Picture Association, bound for England, France and Switzerland; Robert Sherwood, playwright and screen writer, and his wife; George Gallup, public opinion researcher and head of Audience Research Institute, with Ray Milland; Garson Kanin and his wife; Ruth Gordon, and Mrs. I. A. R. Wylie, writer.

Mexican Theatre Building Halted

MEXICO CITY, April 27.—Mexican theatre construction, one feature of the building boom that began in 1945, is now almost at a standstill because the bigger builders believe that it is time to determine whether more theatres are actually necessary. The depression through which the country is now passing is a big factor in their deliberations. General business has dropped as much as 40 per cent since last spring.

Large private banks are as cool to loans for theatre building as they are for picture production while they await experts' reports on whether additional structures are warranted.

Labor Requirements

(*Continued from page* 1)

official publication of the Department of Labor.

The article was written by Dr. Clark Kerr, of the University of California, outstanding authority on West Coast labor, and arbitrator in many California labor disputes.

On the whole, Dr. Kerr observes, "the industry has been a profitable one and wages have been comparatively high; consequently the most difficult disputes have not been over wages."

Dr. Kerr points out that the industry's 30,000 union and guild workers are divided into four major groups: the IATSE, the CSU, the talent guilds, and the unions of white-collar workers. "In few, if any, other industries," the article states, "are white-collar, professional and technical, and managerial employes so completely unionized.

Employers are also quite thoroughly organized, Dr. Kerr reports, with the Association of Motion Picture Producers, "because of the dominating size and importance of its member companies," the labor contract leader for the industry.

The article terms the Hollywood Central Casting Corp. "one of the largest and most efficient placement bureaus in the nation."

The entire issue of the current *Monthly Labor Review* is devoted to an analysis of the labor situation in California and the Pacific Northwest.

MPA Documentaries

(*Continued from page* 1)

produced at M-G-M's Culver City studios. M-G-M producer John Nesbitt, producer of the "Passing Parade" series, is doing the script. Norman Taurog will direct.

If reaction to the picture is favorable, the MPA will sponsor an entire series of such pictures, designed to acquaint the public with vital fields of activity in the United States. Treatment will combine both drama and narration, Cheyfitz said, but it has not yet been decided whether name stars will be used in the pictures.

Industry members of the MPA have agreed to rotate the production of any future films among themselves, and it was decided that M-G-M would produce the first. No arrangements have been made as yet concerning distribution, according to Cheyfitz, who has just returned from Hollywood where he completed negotiations for the first picture.

Mexican Court Rules On Labor Disputes

MEXICO CITY, April 27.—The Mexican Supreme Court has ruled that state labor boards have jurisdiction over disputes between exhibitors and distributors and their employes, but that conflicts between producers and their workers are matters for the federal labor board.

WB Re-signs Sherman

Vincent Sherman, Warner director, has been signed to a new long-term contract.

Sales Parley

(*Continued from page* 1)

George Murphy, screen stars, as guests.

This afternoon's session will be devoted to operations under the decree, parts of which are in abeyance pending action by the U. S. Supreme Court on appeals. General meetings will be supplemented by a number of individual sessions among field sales managers and their respective district and branch managers and chief bookers.

Home office, field and studio executives who will be on the dais at the initial session at 11 A.M. are: Rodgers, Howard Dietz, Howard Strickling, Edward M. Saunders, Edwin W. Aaron, John E. Flynn, John P. Byrne, Rudy Berger, John J. Maloney, George A. Hickey, H. M. Richey, Silas F. Seadler, William R. Ferguson, Alan F. Cummings, Ted Gould, William B. Zoellner, Jay Gove, Joel Bezahler, Jaul J. Richrath, Irving Helfont, Leonard Hirsch, Charles F. Deesen, William G. Brenner, Jay Eisenberg, Pincus Sober, Herbert Crooker, Arthur Lacks, Harold Postman, Maurice N. Wolf, M. L. Simons and Max Weinberg.

MGM Open for Deals

(*Continued from page* 1)

is slightly different. Frank Capra will produce it at Culver City on a large budget. Like any other Metro film, the usual charges of overhead will apply.

It is pointed out that M-G-M has been operating on the occasional policy of releasing pictures made off the lot. "Gone With the Wind" was not the first. In 1941, the company released "The Stars Look Down," which was made in England by Carol Reed. The "open door" plan admittedly has not been very open and probably won't be in the future. But Metro's policy-makers will be on the alert for what they regard as outstanding production ventures in limited number. No door will be padlocked against them, a spokesman declares.

McIntosh Named MP

(*Continued from page* 1)

cational services department.

Prior to joining the MPA, McIntosh was with Encyclopedia Britannica Films in Chicago, as associate in research and production of educational films, and during the war served as Chicago regional director of film production for the U. S. Office of Education. He has held various teaching positions, including those of school principal in Evanston, assistant superintendent of Cook County Schools, and a member of the summer faculty of both Northwestern University and the State University of Iowa.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, April 27

KARL TUNBERG has been signed by Universal-International to a writer-producer contract. His first assignment will be the Sigmund Romberg musical, "Up in Central Park," starring Deanna Durbin. William Seiter will direct the picture, which is to be filmed in Technicolor. . . . Angela Lansbury and Hume Cronyn are set for top roles in M-G-M's version of the A. S. M. Hutchinson book, "If Winter Comes," in which Walter Pidgeon and Deborah Kerr are to be starred.

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Stan Ceizyk has been reelected president of Planet Pictures. Other officers reelected were: Jack Seaman, vice-president; Hal N. Potter, secretary-treasurer. . . . Sol Wurtzel has engaged Virginia Christine, remembered for her performance in "The Killers," for the lead opposite Don Castle in "Flamingo," Wurtzel's next production for 20th Century-Fox. . . . American-Eagle Films has acquired screen rights to a new psychological mystery story by Hannah Lees, titled "Dark Device."

•

Spring Byington has been borrowed from M-G-M by Columbia for the role of Ginger Rogers' mother in "I Found a Dream," which will co-star Miss Rogers and Cornel Wilde. Producer Don Hartman and Rudy Mate are to direct the picture jointly. . . . Jay Dratler has been signed to write the screenplay for "Julie," George Jessel's next production at 20th Century-Fox. . . . William Castle's first directorial assignment at Columbia following his recent illness will be "The Crime Doctor's Gamble," starring Warner Baxter.

•

Macdonald Carey is to co-star with Betty Hutton in "Dream Girl," Paramount's version of Elmer Rice's stage play. P. J. Wolfson will produce; Mitchell Leisen will direct. . . . MacKinlay Kantor's new novel, "Midnight Lace," has been purchased by Universal-International. Claude Binyon, recently signed by the studio, will write the screenplay and direct as well. . . . Tom Drake and Dorothy Patrick have been assigned leading romantic roles in "Alias a Gentleman," now shooting at M-G-M.

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Arthur Lubin has been engaged by Eagle-Lion to direct "Clemmy," based on the novel by Peggy Goodin. . . . "McGuffey the Great," backstage story of a Shakesperean actor turned magician, has been purchased by Warners. Sydney Greenstreet and Dane Clark will have co-starring roles.

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Compton Bennett, who directed the British production, "The Seventh Veil," has been engaged by Paramount to work in a similar capacity on "My Own True Love," which is to co-star Phyllis Clavert and Melvyn Douglas. . . . John English has been signed to direct Gene Autry's first independent picture for Columbia release, a musical Western as yet untitled. . . . "No Common Clay," original drama by Milton Geiger and Robert Metzler, has been purchased by Michael Curtiz Productions.

"Welcome Stranger"

(*Continued from page 1*)

together again. The attraction figures to roll up handsome grosses.

Joan Caulfield is the girl in the case, turning in a nice performance, and Percy Kilbride, whose name is becoming marquee material because of his "Egg and I" portrayal, is present steadily, as the town taxi driver, to supply background laughs blending well with the virtually continuous chuckles evoked by Crosby and Fitzgerald. Frank Faylen, Elizabeth Patterson, Wanda Hendrix and Charles Dingle are among the others whose performances add to the effectiveness of the small-town setting.

In Arthur Sheekman's screenplay, from an adaptation by himself and N. Richard Nash, of a story by Frank Butler, Fitzgerald plays the small-town doctor, 30 years on the job, who seeks a young doctor to take care of his practice while he vacations. Crosby plays the young doctor. The two men meet first on a train, unaware that their paths are to cross again at the journey's end, and through a series of minor incidents—an argument about ownership of a newspaper, about a breakfast, a pipeful of tobacco—arrive at a state of strained civility which becomes a real problem when Fitzgerald learns that this glib and songful young man is the doctor to whom he is expected to entrust his practice. It takes the rest of the picture to bring them, by a series of incidents typical of small-town life, to the firm friendship which exists at the conclusion.

Highlight sequences include several in which Bing sings, his numbers dropping naturally into the run of the proceedings, and one in which the young doctor performs an appendectomy on the old doctor while the latter observes the operation in a mirror and volunteers instruction, a lot of it sarcastic and scathing. The production is by Sol C. Siegel and the direction by Elliott Nugent, both rating high credit for taking it easy, sticking close to human nature and letting the principals be themselves.

Running time, 106 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"The Trouble with Women"

(*Paramount*)

A FRIVOLOUS, laugh-provoking piece of merchandise which trips lightly along the path of farce, "The Trouble with Women" is an enjoyable burlesque about the academic world and, more particularly, about psychology. With Ray Milland as the genteel professor who believes that women have an "unconscious distaste for male gallantry," this film, produced by Harry Tugend, has a serious undercurrent clothed in the comedy and will probably receive generous response from theatre patrons. With Teresa Wright and Brian Donlevy in leading roles, the picture should have added marquee value.

On his way to a new post at a university, and to his financee, Rose Hobart, Milland is chilled by the outraged glances of his fellow passengers. Quickly enough, he learns that he has become page one copy for the local paper, master-minded by Donlevy as city editor. When other reporters fail, Donlevy assigns Miss Wright to the story and she, invoking her feminine charms, worms her way into Milland's professional and, consequently, his emotional interests. He remains unaware that she is responsible for the stories appearing in the paper, while she, as a "student" at his lectures in order to find material substantiating allegedly libelous statements in her stories, entrenches herself in his life. The conniving by Donlevy to get Milland to drop a suit against the paper culminates in a request for the latter's resignation from the faculty, but a noble effort by Miss Wright saves the day. With the realization dawning upon him that she loves him and he loves her, he embarks on a final, successful effort to win her from Donlevy.

The dialogue is bright, witty and fast-paced, and performances are satisfying, with no one taking his role too seriously. It adds up to good entertainment. Sidney Lanfield directed, from a screenplay by Arthur Sheekman, based on a story by Ruth McKenney and Richard Bransten.

Running time, 80 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

IRVING KAPLAN

"Citizen Saint"

(*Clyde Elliott-State-Rights*)

A WEALTH of possibilities was squandered in this inexcusably inept production of "Citizen Saint," inexcusably because the subject easily could have inspired a sublime cinematic endeavor.

The picture suggests a hurried effort to attract the millions acquainted with the Life and Miracles of Frances Cabrini, as the film is sub-billed. Clyde Elliott's production of the life history of St. Frances Cabrini, first American to be canonized, is simply lacking in the ingenuity that might have given the film meaning and depth.

Carla Dare has the title role, accompanied by many other unknowns whose contributions are for the most part undistinguished in the story about the impoverished Italian girl who after her novitiate in Italy comes to America to achieve greatness through her devoted, zealous efforts to aid those in need of both spiritual and material assistance.

Running time, 65 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, May 15.

GENE ARNEEL

Weitman Dinner Show

Leading entertainers will appear on the program when New York's Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith welcomes its newly-elected president, Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the New York Paramount Theatre, at a dinner at the Hotel Astor tomorrow.

New FM Permits

WASHINGTON, April 27.—WHOL, Inc., Olean, N. Y., and the Copper City Broadcasting Corp., Rome, N. Y., have received conditional grants for new FM stations, subject to further review of engineering details by the Federal Communications Commission.

Short Subjects

"Report on the Living"

(*Joint Distribution Committee*)

Claimed to be the first fact film on post-war conditions of 1,500,000 Jewish survivors of Nazism in Europe is this survey of the JDC's relief, resettlement and reconstruction program in Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Austria and Italy. Shown are child care, medical institutions, maritime and agricultural vocational training centers, preparing the survivors for a new life in Palestine or for picking up the threads of life in Europe. Produced and directed by Paul Falkenburg, the film has a commentary by Edward M. M. Warbury, chairman of the JDC. Running time, 25 minutes.

"Mighty Mouse, Crying Wolf"

(*20 Century-Fox*)

One black sheep, tired of just grazing contentedly with the other sheep, cries "Wolf" in this "Terrytoon," and he does this once too often, but, through a prodigious feat of Mighty Mouse, the sheep is rescued from the other wolves. In Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"Fantasy of Siam"

(*20th Century-Fox*)

A review of Siam's temples, this "Movietone Adventure" captures the new and the old in the Oriental land as the camera hovers over ruins of shrines from past ages, then surveys some new monuments dedicated to democracy, symbols to the modern era in Siam. Running time, eight minutes.

"Ski Skill"

(*National Film Board of Canada*)

Produced and distributed by the National Film Board of Canada in the "Canada Carries On" series, the subject is an inviting picture of winter skiing. Scenic views are excellent as the camera records several difficult movements and concludes with a breath-taking down-hill run. Running time, 10 minutes.

Imports in Spain Do Not Need Dubbing

By PEDRO GONZALEZ

MADRID, April 22 (By Airmail).—By official order, foreign films may be shown in their original languages and need no longer be dubbed in Spanish. However, all foreign features must still be granted official authorizations for screenings. These permits of authorization are given by the General Director of Cinematography and Theatre only to producers of Spanish films who, in turn, can give them to importers and distributors of foreign films. Three to four permits are given to producers of "Film of National Interest," chosen by the General Director of Cinematography, two permits are given to second-place producers, and none at all to other producers.

Meanwhile, a new color process, Cinefotocolor, has been invented by the Laboratios Cinefoto de Barcelona. The first Spanish film in color will be "Zaragoza," directed by A. Roman.

The only short feature advertised every month

to the greatest number of American movie-goers

available through any national magazine . . .

the 22,500,000 readers of Life



THE MARCH OF TIME

RELEASED BY
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PRODUCED EVERY FOUR WEEKS BY THE EDITORS OF TIME AND LIFE

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 83 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1947 TEN CENTS

UA's Annual Meeting Now Set for May 8

See Little Chance of New Management By Then

The annual meeting of United Artists stockholders and directors has been set for a week from today but observers yesterday said there appeared to be little likelihood of a decision on new management in advance of the meeting, as predicted several months ago.

At that time, Gus Eyssell, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall; Abe Schneider, treasurer of Columbia, and Si Fabian, head of Fabian Theatres, all were being sounded out in the search for a successor to Ed Raftery, who for long has sought to retire as president of United Artists.

Eyssell is reported to have made it clear at the outset that he did not care to change his present association, and

(*Continued on page 7*)

'Dimes,' Red Cross Would Shun Drive

Both the March of Dimes and the American Red Cross will again hold firm to their positions against participation in a joint industry drive for any federation of charities, Basil O'Connor, chairman of both groups, said here yesterday.

Referring to the proposed "National Health Week" under sponsorship of all film exhibition, he said that it would be "a matter of life and death" if "Dimes" and the Red Cross were to lend themselves to the drive, explaining each would lose individual identity, that they could not anticipate income so as to determine budgets and would have detrimental effects generally.

California Ups Base Wage for Theatres

SACRAMENTO, Cal., April 28.—The state Industrial Welfare Commission has ruled that the minimum wage for women and minors employed in theatres in California will be raised to 65 cents per hour, effective June 1. The present ruling stipulates a minimum of 50 cents per hour for full-time

(*Continued on page 8*)

Must Aid UK: Seidelman

Strongly urging that the U. S. industry allocate more playing time to British product to prevent adoption of serious curbs on American product in England, Joseph Seidelman, president of Universal's international subsidiary, said in a home office interview here yesterday that "unless this is done quickly, restrictions will follow." Seidelman, who has returned from a six-week trip abroad, also announced a deal with Phil and Sid Hyams for the reissue of 90 Universal films in England.



Joseph Seidelman

Stressing that we must generate

(*Continued on page 8*)

Harriman Defends Reciprocal Trade

WASHINGTON, April 28.—The Reciprocal Trade Agreement was today defended by Secretary of Commerce Harriman as the "symbol of full-fledged American participation in world trade." As an example of our dependence on our exports, Harriman cited the fact that the U. S. motion picture industry has been recovering approximately 40 per cent of its gross revenues from foreign markets.

Harriman told a House committee that expansion of the program would increase exports as well as imports, while any curtailing would be interpreted abroad as a withdrawal on our part from freer world trade.

Lightman Partners In Theatre Split

MEMPHIS, April 28.—M. A. Lightman, president of Malco Theatres, Inc., and his partners in L. and L. Theatres have agreed to dissolve their partnership. Joe Macerni and partner Paul Zerilla made the announcement. The Macerni-Zerilla group takes the Lamar Rialto, Capitol and Joy theatres from the L. & L. group and

(*Continued on page 8*)

Columbia Selling in Blocks Where Asked

Columbia will continue to license a number of films as requested by any exhibitor desirous of seeking a constant flow of product. Actually the deals are negotiated singly but the multi-deal would be handled in the one transaction. The company will not offer competitive bidding, but instead would negotiate with theatremen seeking a better run.

New Para. Theatre 1st Since Decision

In what is believed to be the first move of its kind since the New York Federal Court imposed restrictions on theatre expansion by the affiliated companies, Balaban and Katz, almost 100 per cent of which is owned by Paramount, will erect a new theatre in Toledo where a lease on its Paramount Theatre will expire in two years. The company feels that the New York decision permits a new theatre where one presently owned ceases to exist. This does not constitute an additional holding, Paramount contends.

Consider All Run Requests: Rodgers

Exhibitor requests for a run must be given full consideration, and in no case is there to be arbitrary refusal, William F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of distribution for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, emphasized yesterday in addressing the company's first sales convention since before the war, at the Hotel Astor here.

He directed that all clearance ar-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Five Hearing Sites For Building Code

New York, Albany, Syracuse, Rochester and Buffalo are the locations where public hearings on the proposed revision of the New York State building code for places of public assembly are scheduled to begin within the next 10 days, the State Board of Standards and Appeals reported here yesterday.

Two sets of regulations, drafted

(*Continued on page 8*)

WB Will Keep Single Sales But No Bidding

Waits Supreme Court's Ruling; Staff Readied

Until the Supreme Court rules on the appeals from the New York Federal Court's decision in the industry anti-trust suit, Warners will continue to refrain from offering product on a competitive bidding basis.

Although numerous requests to bid competitively have been received by the company during the past several months, at no time has the sales department essayed actual competitive bidding procedure.

It is understood that, upon receipt of such requests the company informs the applying exhibitor that its product is not yet open to competitive bidding. There is no refusal, *per se*, of a "reasonable demand" to bid, for the company is aware that, under the terms of the decision, and despite the

(*Continued on page 8*)

N. J. Allied Studies Action vs. Ascap

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey voted at a meeting here yesterday to appoint a committee which, with legal advisers, will study the advisability of instituting an action to test the legality of Ascap's theatre music tax.

Edward Lachman, New Jersey Allied president, said the action followed discussion of the projected increase in the theatre music tax and said it concurred with the conclusions on the subject published in *Tradewise* in yesterday's MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

New Jersey legislation permitting seacoast cities to enact admissions taxes will be fought by the organiza-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Dinner for Weitman And Levin Tonight

More than 500 from the entertainment industry, including film company executives and top-ranking B'nai B'rith officials, will be present when New York's Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith welcomes its new president, Robert M. Weitman and pays tribute to its retiring president, Jack H. Levin, at a dinner at the Hotel Astor here tonight. Columnist Ed Sullivan

(*Continued on page 8*)

Personal Mention

CHARLES SCHWARTZ of the law firm of Schwartz and Frohlich, is expected to return here from the Coast at the weekend.

•

FRANK A. HORNIG, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Maryland, was guest of honor at a testimonial dinner at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore, tendered by the organization late last week.

•

NATE BLUMBERG, Universal president, is in New York from Hollywood. He will meet J. ARTHUR RANK on the latter's arrival here from England, and will accompany the British industry leader to Hollywood.

•

LOUIS ELLIMAN, managing director of Odeon Ireland, Ltd., theatre circuit controlled by the J. Arthur Rank Organization in Eire, is scheduled to arrive in New York May 22.

•

ROBERT S. WOLFF, RKO Radio managing director for the United Kingdom, is due here tomorrow from Hollywood.

•

EDWARD L. WALTON, Republic assistant sales manager, is in Chicago from New York this week for business talks.

•

EDWARD L. ALPERSON, president of Alson Productions, will arrive in New York today from Hollywood and Chicago.

•

ADELAIDE BRUNS of the New York Selznick Releasing Organization staff, was married last week to TOWNSEND GEORGE PETERS CANN.

•

TOM GOLDBERG, owner of the Walbrook and Hilton theatres, Baltimore, has returned there from Atlantic City.

•

SAMUEL RHEINER, vice-president of Federal Films, has returned to the Coast from New York.

•

HAL ROACH was scheduled to arrive here from the Coast yesterday.

•

WATTERSON ROTHACKER is in New York from the Coast.

Rinzler Cited for His Philanthropies

Samuel Rinzler, New York circuit operator, will be awarded the Motion Picture Associates Beacon Award for meritorious and distinguished service to the industry, at its annual affair at the Waldorf-Astoria, here, on Friday evening, May 16. Rinzler, long active in philanthropic and welfare drives for the industry, was selected at a membership meeting.

This year, Motion Picture Associates is combining the annual award dinner with a tribute to the newly-formed Motion Picture Foundation, and many industry leaders will be on the dais.

Another Plaintiff In Lightman Suit

MEMPHIS, April 28.—Another plaintiff has joined Memphis neighborhood theatre operators in their Federal Court suit for damages against M. A. Lightman, his circuit associates and eight film distributing companies, with an amended petition filed by Walter Armstrong, Jr., attorney for the original plaintiffs, raising the amount of damages sought from $2,910,600 to $3,378,600.

The new plaintiff is John W. Eaton, who operated the Peabody Theatre here for 20 years. He charges that when the Peabody first opened it booked pictures between 30 to 60 days after their first-runs downtown but after Lightman built the Lamar and Memphis theatres this period was increased to between 95 to 97 days.

54 New York Area Openings for 'Duel'

Total of theatres booked to play David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" simultaneously in the New York Metropolitan area beginning May 7 was increased to 54, with the addition of four St. Cloud Circuit theatres in New Jersey, Milton Kusell, general sales manager of the Selznick Releasing Organization, announces.

The list also includes 39 Loew houses in the city, Westchester and New Jersey, led by the Capitol on Broadway; eight Walter Reade theatres in New York and New Jersey; RKO Rivoli, New Brunswick; Plaza, Stamford; and the four St. Cloud theatres, namely St. Cloud, Washington; Palace, Flemington; Gem, Frenchtown; Newton, Newton.

House Passes D. of C. Daylight Time Bill

WASHINGTON, April 28.—The House today passed a bill authorizing the District of Columbia Commissioners to put daylight-saving time into effect here. The Senate has already passed such a bill, but a minor House amendment will have to be agreed to by the upper chamber, thereby postponing sending of the measure to the White House for another day or so.

Local observers estimate that daylight saving would be put into effect here within a week after the President signs the bill.

More Trade Press Ads For Top Allied Films

HOLLYWOOD, April 28.—Allied Artists plans extensive trade-paper advertising campaigns for all high-budget films in the future, president Steve Broidy announces here. Broidy said that the decision follows the exhibitor reaction accorded the high-budget advertising campaign for Roy Del Ruth's "It Happened on 5th Avenue."

"Black Gold," Jeffrey Bernerd's Cinecolor production, is tentatively set as Allied's next top-budget picture.

Wm. T. Orr to M-G-M

HOLLYWOOD, April 28.—William T. Orr has joined the Warner studios as an executive in the talent department. He will work on the discovery and development of new talent.

Probe of 'Reds' on Coast Opens May 8

WASHINGTON, April 28.—Congressional investigation of alleged Communist attempts to "capture" the film industry will get under way early on May 8, according to Rep Richard M. Nixon, of California, member of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. A three-man subcommittee of the House unit, headed by J. Parnell Thomas, chairman, will leave here on May 5 for Hollywood.

After a week on the Coast, devoted primarily to checking into the activities of Hans Eisler, film music composer, the subcommittee will return to the Capital, Nixon said, adding that the group might also look into the role of Communists in allegedly aiding promoting the current studio jurisdictional strike and other labor disputes, as well as their reported role in Hollywood unions generally.

Nixon also indicated that the committee investigators may return to Hollywood, possibly in mid-summer, to hold "full-dress" public hearings there.

Urges Industry Films Fit Educators' Needs

WASHINGTON, April 28.—A strong liaison between education and industry is needed if public relations films produced by industry are to achieve distribution in education fields, according to Roger Albright, director of Motion Picture Association's education division. Industry public relations films should fit into the school's curriculum and should fill the educator's need as well as the sponsor's, he stated.

He announced that a new section, showing American participation in the second World War, will be added to MPA's "Land of Liberty" pictorial history of the United States through 1938.

Form Actors' Unit to Protest Labor Bills

WASHINGTON, April 28.—Stars of screen, stage and radio will be called upon to participate in the AFL's $1,500,000 drive against the Taft and Hartley labor bills.

At a special meeting of entertainment unions affiliated with the AFL, a committee was formed to mobilize talent for personal appearances, radio programs and mass meetings. The first meeting of the committee to plan the campaign will be held Wednesday in New York at the headquarters of Actors Equity Association.

Holt Joins Hoyt's In Ad.-Pub. Post

Cliff Holt has been appointed advertising-publicity executive for Hoyts Theatre Circuit in Australia. The appointment is effective May 1.

Since his return from war service, Holt has been the editor of *Film Weekly*, Australian trade paper. Both before and after the war Holt has served as MOTION PICTURE DAILY's Australian correspondent.

Bischoff's Star Films Starts Production

HOLLYWOOD, April 28.—An independent production company headed by Sam Bischoff has been chartered under the name of Star Films, Inc., and is now beginning production of "Intrigue," starring George Raft, for release through United Artists.

Bischoff's plans call for the appearance of Raft in three pictures.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Claudette COLBERT Fred MacMURRAY
"THE EGG AND I"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
TRAIL STREET
starring Randolph SCOTT • Robert RYAN
Anne JEFFREYS • George "Gabby" HAYES

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN SPENCER TRACY • KATHARINE HEPBURN M-G-M's 'THE SEA OF GRASS'
IN PERSON GEORGE GIVOT BENAY VENUTA Plus OTHERS

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTEN • ETHEL BARRYMORE
in "The Farmer's Daughter"
RIVOLI
An RKO Radio Picture
A DORE SCHARY Production
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.
B'way at 49th St.

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

ALAN LADD GAIL RUSSELL WILLIAM BENDIX in CALCUTTA
A Paramount Picture
In Person DUKE ELLINGTON And his Orchestra
GOLDEN GATE QUARTETTE
COKE & POKE
and BUCK & BUBBLES
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

CHARLES CHAPLIN
IN
"MONSIEUR VERDOUX"
A Motion Picture that will STARTLE you!
Released thru United Artists
BROADWAY THEATRE B'way at 53rd

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco. New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco. London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.


Shirley is whirley about
the Guy who gives the girls
a big romantic bang!...
...in RKO's
HONEYMOON

Miss Glamorous
and Mr. Amorous . . . in a
gay elopement adventure
that makes Mexico
City blush . . . !

Shirley
TEMPLE

Franchot
TONE

Guy
MADISON

in

Honeymoon

A WILLIAM KEIGHLEY PICTURE

with LINA ROMAY · GENE LOCKHART
CORINNA MURA · GRANT MITCHELL

Produced by WARREN DUFF · Directed by WILLIAM KEIGHLEY
Screen Play by MICHAEL KANIN
Based on a story by VICKI BAUM

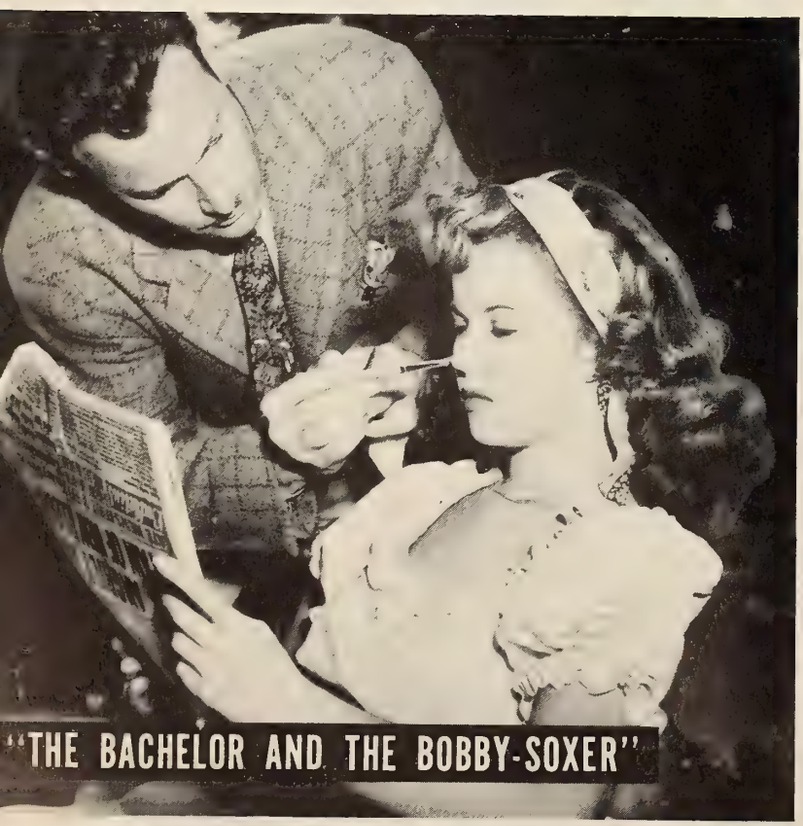



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RKO's **PIC-TOUR** MONTH



SPINNING YARNS at party given by Charlie McCarthy, attended by Mortimer Snerd, is many-voiced EDGAR BERGEN. Scene from WALT DISNEY's *Fun and Fancy Free*, full-length Technicolor musical. DINAH SHORE, Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, also shine in cast.



LAUGHTER SUSPENDED on RKO's *The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer* set while SHIRLEY TEMPLE gets touch-up from studio make-up man. Fun starts again when Shirley, as smitten bobby-soxer, begins swooning over wary CARY GRANT. Brilliant star cast includes MYRNA LOY.



PROUD PAPA is British film star JOHN MILLS, soon seen with daug ter, *above*, in James Hilton's *So Well Remembered*, filmed in Englan Anglo-American cast includes MARTHA SCOTT, PATRICIA RO TREVOR HOWARD, RICHARD CARLSON. An RKO-Rank Pictur



HAPPY HUNTING. True lovers always find their own Magic Tow JAMES STEWART, JANE WYMAN seek and find theirs in *Mag Town*, film of many provocative situations, hailed the most unusual com edy romance in years. An independent ROBERT RISKIN Production

THESE BIG RKO PICTURES WILL SOON BE SHOWN AT YOUR THEATRE

RK RADI PICTUR

LITHO U.S.A.

Pic-Tour is RKO's Dynamic Pre-Selling Advertising page running regularly in Life, Look and Collier

Rebel Local Pays Up IATSE Dues

HOLLYWOOD, April 28.—A marginal development interpreted as another step toward ending the studio strike occurred when the insurgent IATSE Technicians Local No. 683, which bolted International control last October to observe picket lines, voted to pay up dues in order to preserve its rights in the international body. Following the bolt, IATSE officers suspended the officers of 683, installed new ones and set up new headquarters. The attitude of IATSE headquarters toward the new development was not immediately ascertainable.

Meanwhile, the producers' labor committee, which will meet for the first time with the striking painters' union on Thursday, continued sessions with the Screen Actors Guild tonight.

Film Department for Atlanta Library

ATLANTA, April 28.—A department of motion pictures is in the blueprints for Atlanta's new public library project, it was disclosed here by Aubrey Milam, president of the Carnegie Library Board of Trustees.

On a visit to Los Angeles last summer, Milam saw a motion picture museum, and brought home the idea of creating a similar exhibit here. It would include historical data on the development of the industry, scenes from early films, models of production lots, equipment used in the making and projection of pictures, and similar displays.

N. Y. Strand Sets Reissues

The New York Strand, which, Warner says, never before has played double bills or reissues, will for two weeks, beginning May 23, play a double-feature and reissue program consisting of "The Sea Hawk," and "The Sea Wolf." For the period the theatre will discontinue its stage show policy.

Technicolor Dividend

The board of directors of Technicolor announces a dividend of 25 cents per share, payable on May 20 to stockholders of record at the close of business on May 9.

Monte Carlo
"PREVIEW ROOM"
... will really SELL your picture.
Fully equipped for 35MM, 16MM, and Slide Projection.
Cocktail parties, luncheons and dinners served in this versatile room — setting a gay mood for a favorable reaction to your film.
MADISON AVENUE at 54th St.
New York, N. Y.
Tel.: PL. 5-3400 Michael J. McGrath, Mgr.

Brisson Announces IA Financing Deal

HOLLYWOOD, April 28.—Frederick Brisson, president of Independent Artists, has announced consummation of a deal for pre-production financing with Fred R. Tuerk, partner of Cruttenden and Co., Chicago investment firm. Tuerk is also principal owner of William R. Staats and Co., Los Angeles and San Francisco investment bankers.

Remy L. Hudson, president of Eddie Albert Productions, will represent the Tuerk interests on the IA board. The deal provides for participation by Tuerk interests in the profits of IA, which has 10-picture production schedule covering five years. RKO will distribute.

Coast Trust Retrial Opens This Morning

SEATTLE, April 28.—The hearings in the anti-trust suit brought by the Theatre Investment Co. and the Venetian Theatre Co. against the RKO Film Distributors Co. will begin tomorrow morning before Judge Bowen in federal court here.

The defendants in the suit are being charged with violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act through illegal fixing of prices. This is a re-trial of a suit tried previously in this court.

Bruen To Remodel, Build

HOLLYWOOD, April 28. — Hugh Bruen, independent exhibitor of Whittier, Cal., and operator of three theatres there, has let contracts for refurbishing of these at a cost of $40,000 and for construction of a new 1,100-seat theatre in Whittier to cost $300,000. Bruen also contracted for construction of a new theatre in nearby Pico, a 1,000-seatre to cost $275,000. Bruen is a trustee of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners.

Nicholas with Schreiber

Michael Nicholas, manager of Century's Fantasy Theatre, has been named assistant to Edward Schreiber, the company's advertising-publicity director, by Joseph R. Springer, general manager. He replaces Ralph Lager, who has been promoted to the booking department.

Theatre Unit Sets Meets

KANSAS CITY, April 28.—The board of directors of the Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association will begin in May to hold monthly meetings, on the second Tuesdays of each month. The first will be on May 13, in Kansas City.

Crosby Film to Loew's

Astor Pictures' "Road to Hollywood," starring Bing Crosby, will play the New York Loew circuit after its two-week run at the Brooklyn Strand beginning Wednesday.

$12,000 for 'Torment'

"Torment," Swedish film distributed here by Oxford Films, hit a new high at the Avenue Theatre here where the first week's income was over $12,000, according to the distributor.

'Unfaithful' Tradeshow

"The Unfaithful," Warner production, will be nationally tradeshown on Monday, May 26.

U. S. Supplied Bulk Of Australia's Film

By CLIFF HOLT

SYDNEY, April 22 (By Airmail).—During 1946, the U. S. supplied 319 of the 384 features imported by Australia, according to the Commonwealth Film Censor. Standard-width films of all classes imported in 1946 numbered 2,046, of which the U. S. supplied 1,015, Great Britain, 506, and other countries, 543. Nine of the U. S. films were rejected by the censors, with two of them passing on appeal.

Figures released by the Commissioner of Taxation disclose attendance at cinemas at a record peak of 151,144,831 for the year. It is estimated on the basis of this that half of Australia's population attends a theatre once a week.

Two Corporations Organized in N. Y.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 28. — Cine Classics has been incorporated as a motion picture producer. Incorporators were Vincent Bejtman, Zygmunt Prumbs, and Ruth S. Rubinstein, all of New York City.

Forway Corp. has been incorporated to manufacture motion picture machinery. Incorporators are Michael Freedman, Joseph Henry and Harry G. Kosch, all of New York City.

Delay Exchange Opening

PHILADELPHIA, April 28.—Opening of the new Warner exchange here, scheduled for Monday, has been postponed until next month as a result of the telephone strike, according to William G. Mansell, branch manager.

Sichel Joins PRC

Elmer Sichel, of Century Theatres' booking department, here, has resigned, to accept a salesman's post for PRC and Eagle-Lion, working out of Albany.

RCA to Show Color Video

PHILADELPHIA, April 28.—RCA will hold its first public demonstration of its large screen theatre-type color television at the Franklin Institute here on Wednesday.

Consider Requests

(*Continued from page* 1)

rangements must be justified and to this added he "assumed" all present clearance systems now in effect are "reasonable." Rodgers explained that he has repeatedly stressed this to be the company policy since seven years ago when the consent decree was entered into.

Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, and Francis Harmon, New York MPA vice-president, made a brief appearance at the session, Johnston, in an address, promising that the film industry will receive the recognition it deserves in "the general scheme of things."

All home office executives, except president Nicholas M. Schenck, now on the Coast, attended the opening of the week-long session, along with division, district and branch managers and head bookers. Attending from the Coast are Howard Strickling, in charge of studio publicity; Fred Quimby, head of shorts, and George Murphy, M-G-M star.

CPA Gives Permits For 7 New Theatres

WASHINGTON, April 28.—Applications to construct seven new theatres have been approved by the U. S. Office of the Housing Expediter.

Largest project is a theatre to be built by Sam Carver in Brown City, Mich. Other approvals were: J. E. Freidrich and A. J. Klokkevold, Soledad, Cal.; A. K. Veach, between North Philadelphia and Uhrichsville, O.; Missouri Motor Movies, Inc., Kansas City; Frederick A. Cross, Marrero, La.; Ralph A. Hale, Lakin, Kans.; Frank Wilson, Detroit, Ore.

Olsen Describes S.A. Theatre Bldg. Boom

CHICAGO, April 28.—Norman D. Olsen, DeVry Corp. export manager, reports, after a four-week tour of South America, the existence of a widespread theatre-building boom there. He says that many houses in the larger cities "are very costly, and are patterned after our biggest and best theatres." Others, however, are constructed chiefly of wood; "we Americans would term them shacks."

E-L Promotion Contest

Eagle-Lion is conducting an exploitation campaign contest among theatre managers and publicists for its forthcoming "Repeat Performance," announces A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and sales manager. "Repeat Performance" will be released nationally following its premiere in Zanesville, Ohio, on May 22.

Faber Joins Sherman

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 28. — Marshall L. Faber, former producer, has joined Al Sherman, publicist, as an associate here. He will specialize in technical production problems of the firm's industrial clients.

UA Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

the talks were terminated about two months ago. Fabian has said that no formal offer which he could accept or reject had been made to him but admitted that the subject had been discussed with him and, he added, with a number of others.

Schneider has declined to comment on the overtures made to him but it is learned that the talks have made no appreciable progress since they were first initiated late in February, nor have talks with others reached any advanced stage, it is reported.

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Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

Aside from "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "The Egg and I," which continue to do good business on extended runs, grosses generally are around average or below. Warm weather prevails. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 28-May 2:

THE BRASHER DOUBLOON (20th-Fox)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (55c-65c-75c-85c-95c). On stage: Carmen Cavallaro and orchestra and other acts. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $30,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.40-$1.50) 7th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average, at regular prices of 50c-55c-60c-65c-70-75c: $10,000)

PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE (PRC) and SIOUX CITY SUE (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600)

LAST FRONTIER UPRISING (Rep.) and FIGHTING SEA MONSTER (Popular)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Gross: $1,100. (Average: $1,100)

BOOMERANG (20th-Fox)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 4th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $7,500)

MEET JOHN DOE (WB reissue) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,000)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,000)

TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000)

BALTIMORE

Bad weather apparently interfered with openings. Any good weather over the weekend served as an outdoor attraction. Still holding strong in its sixth week is "The Best Years of Our Lives." Estimated receipts for the week ending May 1:

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 2nd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $14,000)

SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (28c-40c-50c-58c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $12,000)

STALLION ROAD (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-47c-50c-58c). Gross: $18.000. (Average: $16,500)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (Advanced prices: 75c-$1.25) 6th week. Gross: $16,500. (Average at regular prices of 35c-65c: $14,000)

GUILT OF JANET AMES (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-59c). With a stage show. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $17,500)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c). Gross: $7,000. (Average :$5,500)

THE RAIDER (Equity)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: $2,750. (Average: $3,000)

DESTRY RIDES AGAIN (U-I reissue)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-36c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)

ATLANTA

The weather was fair and business generally picked up. Only one new picture reached first runs. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 30:

SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio)—FOX (4,661) (30c-50c) 2nd week. The Fox has closed April 28-29 for grand opera. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,000)

LADIES MAN (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (30c-50c). Gross: $8,900. (Average: $8,300)

SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I)—(ROXY) (2,446) (30c-50c) 3rd week on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $6,400. (Average: $5,600)

JUNGLE TERROR and QUEEN OF THE AMAZONS (Screen Guild)—CAPITAL (2,446) (30c-44c). Gross: $6,300. (Average: $5,200)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (30c-50c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,000)

TORONTO

Warmer weather prevailed during the week, but there was a lull in important counter-attractions with the exception of remaining amateur hockey playoffs and a skating carnival which winds up the ice season. There were four holdovers, including the sixth week of "The Jolson Story" at two theatres. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 1:

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 6th week. Gross: $7,400. (Average: $7,800)

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,800. (Average: $14,300)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $14,300. (Average: $13,800)

13 RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,300. (Average: $14,800)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 6th week. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $9,500)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,400)

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $6,800)

Must Aid UK

(*Continued from page* 1)

dollars here by allowing British product sufficient playing time, Seidelman asserted that the Bank of England is getting regular reports from the Rank organization on the number of dollars being remitted weekly from America.

"Every independent circuit and exhibitor in America must be made conscious of the problem because it is bound to affect us," Seidelman warned. He added that the need of the British film industry is to make from $8,000,000 to $10,000,000 net annually in this market.

Emphasizing the point, Alfred E. Daff, Universal vice-president, declared that the effects of further restrictions in England would definitely be felt in the quality of product made in Hollywood.

The reissue deal, which was made with the approval of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, calls for product of 1937-38 to 1941-42 season. The price for the franchise exceeds $500,000, Seidelman disclosed. A new company will be formed for the 16mm. distribution, which will take over Anglo-American Film Co., formerly a distributing affiliate of Warner Brothers.

Seidelman spoke against a move now afoot to show German product in countries outside of Germany and Austria. He said that "our own industry should unite to protest such a movement." He revealed that at a meeting in Paris of foreign distribution managers of American film companies, a cable of protest was sent to Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association in Washington.

While in France, Seidelman saw the company's first completed French film, "The Devil in the Flesh," made with Trans-Continental Films. He disclosed that an agreement was made with the French government for 50 per cent of the foreign revenue from the film. As to French production, he said most of it has been deferred because of rising costs.

WB Will Keep

(*Continued from page* 1)

stay of competitive bidding operations by the Supreme Court, a defendant company is regarded as possibly subject to civil action if a "reasonable demand" is refused.

Presumably, up to this point, no exhibitor has chosen to follow up his original request with a demand that he be permitted to bid competitively on Warner product. The company's reply to a request in no way constitutes a refusal, it is said.

Meanwhile, the Warner sales department is being coached fully on competitive selling methods so that if the Supreme Court should uphold the New York decision those methods can be put into operation at once.

For the past six years Warners has been selling its pictures singly.

N. J. Allied

(*Continued from page* 1)

tion in municipalities which attempt to levy the tax and where local exhibitors oppose it, Lachman said.

Harry Lowenstein, chairman of Jersey Allied's convention committee, to be held at Atlantic City, June 24-26, and which will include a tribute to Jack Kirsch, national Allied president, completed the naming of the convention committees at yesterday's meeting.

New Building Code

(*Continued from page* 1)

during the winter of 1945-46 by state and industry representatives, will be considered. One applies to new constructions, the other to existing theatres and other structures. Industry participants in the drafting were: Henry Anderson, Paramount; Louis Lazar, Schine Circuit; Theodore Jung, Loew's; Martin Tracy, Century Circuit; Richard S. Hayes, IATSE projectionist, local No. 550, and the late Glenn H. Hurley, IATSE projectionist, local No. 337.

The code in its final form is expected to set a pattern for similar codes in other parts of the country.

Cities which will be unaffected by the new code, by virtue of having bureaus of buildings charged with enforcing local codes, are: New York, Buffalo, Rochester, Albany, Elmira, Long Beach, Mount Vernon, Newburgh, New Rochelle, Niagara Falls, Schenectady, Syracuse, Troy, Utica, White Plains, Yonkers, and possibly Binghamton.

The revised code, the first here in 25 years, calls for more rigid enforcement of fire regulations and will establish new standards for stairways, doors, sprinkler heads, storage rooms, projection booths, etc. Present projection booths will remain unaltered, but new booths will have to conform to new code standards.

Lightman Partners

(*Continued from page* 1)

Lightman maintains the Linden, Circle and Memphis.

Macerni said, "This division was occasioned by a friendly disagreement. Lightman, with whom we have operated pleasantly in partnership for many years, wanted us to go in with him in the large theatre and business building he has in preliminary stages at Crosstown and Overton P. Lark, but we did not wish to be included in it.

"After Lightman decided to proceed with the project without us, we came to feel that it would not work for us to operate both as partners of Lightman and as his competitors in the same field, so we insisted on dissolution of the partnership and Lightman agreed.

"We will take back full control of the Lamar and Rialto, which were originally ours. Lightman gets back his Linden Circle. We agreed that one group would get the Capitol and Joy and the other the Memphis. Then we drew lots to see which should take which. Lightman drew the Memphis. No cash consideration was involved."

$23,000 to Toronto UJA

TORONTO, April 28.—Contributions totaling about $23,000 for the United Jewish Appeal have been received by the film division of the United Jewish Welfare Fund of Toronto, following a dinner at the King Edward Hotel here. J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players-Canadian Corp., and Sholome M. Gelber spoke.

WANTED

Opportunity for young woman with practical knowledge of exploitation, as secretary in theatre department.

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Cal. Ups Minimum

(*Continued from page* 1)

workers, and 55 cents for part-time workers. There are some 1,200 film theatres in the state.

A lesser rate, but not less than 50 cents may be paid to a number of minors not exceeding 10 per cent of the persons employed, and employes who report but are not put to work will be paid half the pay for the usual day's work. A minimum of 65 cents has been set for any employe who works a split shift. Women may not work more than 48 hours in one week, or eight hours in one day. Overtime shall be paid for at the rate of more than one and one-half times the regular pay rate.

Dinner for Weitman

(*Continued from page* 1)

will be master-of-ceremonies.

Henry Monsky, national president of B'nai B'rith; Abraham Glovsky, president of Grand Lodge No. 1; Sam Sievers, past president of Grand Lodge No. 2; Samuel Markle, president of the Metropolitan Council of B'nai B'rith, and Larry White, executive secretary of Grand Lodge, No. 1, are among the B'nai B'rith leaders scheduled to be on the dais.

Industry leaders invited to the dais include: Barney Balaban, Jack Cohn, Malcolm Kingsberg, Leonard Goldenson, Leopold Friedman, Si Fabian, Harry Brandt, Sam Rinzler, Max A. Cohen, Alfred W. Schwalberg, Maurice A. Bergman, Jean Benoit-Levy, Saul E. Rogers and Al Senft.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 84 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 1947 TEN CENTS

Names . . . *in Today's News*

BURTUS BISHOP, JR., M-G-M Southwestern district manager, and with the company since 1926, has been promoted to Midwest sales manager, succeeding John E. Flynn, who has been with the company and its predecessors for 27 years. Flynn is retiring from full-time activity but will continue in an advisory capacity, according to William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager.



Burtus Bishop, Jr.

Bishop started with Metro as salesman in Charlotte, becoming manager there in 1936, manager in Pittsburgh in 1937 and in 1941 he was made Midwest district manager in Kansas City, moving to Dallas and the Southwestern district post in 1943.

Schwartz Promotes Golden, Weiss and Oelreich at RKO

Jay Golden, Harry Weiss and Charles Oelreich have been made division managers of RKO Theatres by Sol A. Schwartz, vice-president and general manager of the circuit. Golden goes from the post of Brooklyn division chief to head of the West Coast division, out of San Francisco; Weiss, manager of Proctor's, Newark, gets Golden's Brooklyn post; Oelreich, Yonkers manager, becomes division manager in the Bronx.

Goodwin Sable, manager of Keith's, Dayton, was named Dayton city manager; Francis Anderson, manager of the Rochester Palace, becomes city manager there. Harold Daly was promoted to Yonkers, from the 23rd Street, here; George Baldwin goes to the 23rd Street, Arthur Koch goes to the Colonial and Herbert Heintz to Proctor's Newark.

Jonas Arnold Is Assistant Eagle-Lion Ad Manager

Jonas Arnold of Eagle-Lion's New York promotional department yesterday was named assistant advertising manager by Max Youngstein, director of E-L's advertising-publicity department. Hal Danson is advertising manager.

At the same time, Lige Brien, exploitation representative, becomes assistant exploitation manager under Arthur Jeffrey, and Leo Brody, magazine publicity contact, becomes assistant publicity manager under Jerry Pickman.

New Films Help NY 1st Runs; 'Odd Man,' 'Egg' Take the Lead

Several new films this week strengthened many New York first-runs which had been suffering from acute box-office inactivity. A few holdovers lingered on, some faring well, others not. "Odd Man Out," "The Egg and I," "Calcutta" and "Homestretch" led the field, none of these having difficulty in drawing customers in their respective opening.

"Odd Man Out" is a standout at the Criterion where the first week's gross hit about $48,000, the film also being received very enthusiastically by the press on its opening.

"The Egg and I," with a stage show, at the Music Hall justified high expectations with $85,000 taken in from Thursday through Sunday, indicating a splendid $135,000 for its first week.

At the Paramount, "Calcutta" and

(Continued on page 7)

Six Films in Seven Months for NY Para.

Averaging one feature about every five weeks, the New York Paramount Theatre has booked six films for the next seven months, up to Thanksgiving Day, while the Brooklyn Paramount will have eight films for the period, Robert M. Weitman, managing director of both theatres, announces.

Films to play the New York house are: "The Imperfect Lady," which will follow the current picture, "Calcutta"; "Dear Ruth," "Perils of Pauline," "Welcome Stranger," "Desert Fury," and "Variety Girls." Stage headliners have also been set in conjunction with all of the screen bills.

Set for the Brooklyn house are: "My Favorite Brunette" and "Calcutta," in addition to those scheduled for the New York Paramount.

Paramount Sets 31 Sales Meetings

Plans for 31 branch meetings throughout the country preparatory to the start of Paramount's 1947 sales drive on Aug. 31 were disclosed here yesterday by Charles M. Reagan, distribution vice-president.

Initial sessions, scheduled by Hugh Owen, Eastern-Southern division sales manager, follow: New Orleans, May 9-10; Atlanta, May 12-14; Charlotte,

(Continued on page 8)

MPA-SMPE Survey of Theatre Television

Washington, April 29.—Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston will meet tomorrow with Loren L. Ryder, president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers and Paul Larsen, chief consultant of its theatrical television section, to discuss the possibility of setting up an industry fact-finding survey on the use of television in theatres.

Weitman Inducted By B'nai B'rith

Robert M. Weitman, manager of the New York and Brooklyn Paramount Theatres, was installed as president of the Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith before 500 entertainment industry representatives at the Hotel Astor here last night. The Lodge also paid tribute to retiring president Jack H. Levin, vice-president and general manager of Confidential Reports.



Robert M. Weitman

Weitman called for a wider Cinema Lodge membership to help, by virtue of the B'nai B'rith, to protect American democratic principles. To carry out this objective, Weitman outlined

(Continued on page 8)

To Continue Making 'B' Pictures: Yates

HOLLYWOOD, April 29.—Republic will continue to make "B" pictures, Herbert J. Yates, president, announced at a studio meeting to formulate plans for 1947-48 program. Elimination or reduction of B's had been considered by the company.

Yates explained that Republic had decided to make at least 16 "B" pictures for the coming season following assurances of circuits and independent exhibitors that they are ready to give increased support to them.

Yates also asserted that the company policy of increased attention to high-budget productions will be maintained. He reported that deals are now in ne-

(Continued on page 8)

Skouras Says Latin Grosses Up 12 to 40%

Visited 500 Theatres on Trip with Silverstone

By DAVID A. GORDON

Attendance figures in South and Central American theatres are from 12½ to 40 per cent higher this year than for the corresponding period last year, Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century - Fox, declared here yesterday in a press interview based on his six-week trip through South and Central America.



Spyros P. Skouras

Skouras' description of increasing popularity of films in South America was echoed by Murray Silverstone, president of 20th Century-Fox International, who

(Continued on page 8)

U.S. Tax Collections 33 Millions in Mar.

WASHINGTON, April 29.—Federal admission tax receipts for March, representing collection at box-offices during February, were more than $3,000,000 below March receipts last year, according to figures released by the U. S. Bureau of Internal Revenue.

March revenue this year amounted to $33,223,139, compared with $36,374,650 in 1946. In both January and February, this year's collections, however, far outstripped 1946 receipts.

Between 80 and 90 per cent of these figures represent taxes on motion picture admissions.

Reviewed Today

"Homesteaders of Paradise Valley," "Six Gun Serenade," page 7; "Philo Vance Returns," "Desirable Lady," "West to Glory," page 9.

Key city grosses are given on page 7.

New Hitchcock Unit Will Be Set Here

HOLLYWOOD, April 29.—With "The Paradine Case" completed for Vanguard, Alfred Hitchcock will leave Hollywood next week for New York where first steps in the launching of his own independent company, Transatlantic Pictures Corp., will be taken.

Associated with the director in the new company will be Sidney Bernstein, head of Granada Theaters in England. Their first picture will be "The Rope," based on the Patrick Hamilton play to be made in Hollywood. The second will be "Under Capricorn," starring Ingrid Bergman, and it will be made in England.

While here, Hitchcock will confer with Miss Bergman.

Details concerning financing and distribution will be determined following Bernstein's arrival here from England.

Monogram in Coast Meeting on May 13

HOLLYWOOD, April 29.—A Coast regional sales meeting of Allied Artists and Monogram will be held at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, on Saturday, May 13, Steve Broidy, president of both companies, announced here today.

Selling campaigns for "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," "Black Gold," "The Gangster," "Tragic Symphony" and "The Hunted" will be discussed at the meeting, along with other product. Broidy will preside. Howard Stubbins and Mel Hulling, Coast franchise owners, will sponsor a cocktail party on the previous night.

Press to Meet MGM Field Representatives

William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president and general sales manager, will sponsor a luncheon for trade-paper editors and publishers today at the Hotel Astor here, where an M-G-M sales meeting is in its third day. New field appointees will be introduced.

Yesterday's luncheon guests were: E. B. Hatrick, vice-president and general manager of News of the Day; Mike Clofine, editor; Walter Bredin, assignment editor; Arthur Lacks, News of the Day sales head.

$1,750,000 Ad Budget For Enterprise Films

The advertising budget appropriation on four forthcoming Enterprise pictures has been set at approximately $1,750,000, United Artists home office here said yesterday. The figure will cover advertising on "Ramrod," "Arch of Triumph," "The Other Love" and "Body and Soul."

Robert Taplinger, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity for Enterprise Studios, is currently in New York from Hollywood for discussions with Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., UA advertising-publicity head, on future advertising plans.

Personal Mention

NATE B. SPINGOLD, Columbia executive, is on the Coast from New York. He will return here in two or three weeks.

•

VERNE TAYLOR, T. and D., JR., Enterprises general manager, with headquarters in San Francisco, is celebrating 25 years service with the company, which will honor him by holding a Taylor Anniversary Drive.

•

DR. HERBERT T. KALMUS, president of Technicolor, Inc., is visiting the company's Centerville, Mass., plant. He will return to New York on May 8.

•

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Warner Eastern district manager, has gone to Buffalo and Binghamton and will return to the home office at the weekend.

•

ROGER WILLIAMS, Paramount International manager in Puerto Rico, will leave for his headquarters today by plane after a home office visit.

•

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, Central sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, will be in Cleveland today from New York.

•

ARNOLD PRESSBURGER is due in New York from the Coast on May 5, en route to London.

•

MARION DORAN, Enterprise's story department head, is in New York from the Coast.

•

C. J. SCOLLARD, Paramount labor relations chief, returned to the home office yesterday from the Coast.

AMERICO ABOAF, Universal foreign department representative, has returned from a six-week tour of Mexico, Puerto Rico and Cuba.

•

STANLEY H. CRAIG, Paramount general manager for New Zealand, and WILLIAM HURWORTH, JR., assistant manager in Sydney, are expected in New York next week.

•

ROBERT S. WOLFF, RKO Radio managing director in the United Kingdom, returned to New York from the Coast yesterday. He will sail for England on May 9.

•

WALTER GREEN, president of National Theatre Supply, and OSCAR OLDKNOW, vice-president, are on the Coast from New York.

•

EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, United Artists' Eastern and Canadian sales manager, is due to arrive in Toronto this week from Detroit.

•

NAT LEVY, RKO Radio Eastern division sales manager, is on a mid-western business trip.

•

SAM WOLOWITZ of the Warner home office accounting department is the father of a boy, MARK.

•

ARNOLD GRANT, United Artists board member, is due back in New York today from Chicago.

•

PAUL O'BRIEN, United Artists assistant secretary, is vacationing in Pennsylvania.

Mayer Paid $500,000 By Loew's in 1946

PHILADELPHIA, April 29.—The highest 1946 salary of Loew's Inc., went to Louis B. Mayer, M-G-M production vice-president, who received $500,000, it was disclosed in the company's report to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Robert Montgomery received $286,000 and Nicholas M. Schenck, president and director of Loew's, received $224,767.

Bonuses and profit shares reported by the company included $111,357 to J. Robert Rubin, vice-president and director, and $63,357 to Benjamin Thau, vice-president.

Salary figures released by SEC are gross earnings, before taxes.

Golden on Trip to Hollywood, Mexico

WASHINGTON, April 29.—Nathan D. Golden, consultant on motion pictures in the Department of Commerce, will leave here May 8 on a six-week trip to Hollywood and Mexico.

Golden will spend up to 10 days in Hollywood, attending the variety convention and talking with officials in industry offices. From there he will go to Mexico for a month's study of production. He plans to return to the capital at the end of June.

Later this year, Golden hopes to make a tour of South America.

$504,349 for 'Duel' at Three Coast Runs

LOS ANGELES, April 29.—"Duel in the Sun" yesterday set a new box-office record of $504,349 for 18 weeks at three local theatres, the Selznick Releasing Organization discloses, adding that this figure tops Los Angeles earnings of Selznick's "Gone with the Wind" by nearly $90,000.

The breakdown of "Duel" grosses shows that it earned $203,335 at the Fairfax, $78,400 at the Egyptian and $222,614 at the Vogue. It will continue indefinitely.

Frank Panero Buys 4 Theatres on Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, April 29.—Frank Panero of Panero Theatres has concluded a deal whereby he will add four theatres to his circuit of 12. The houses represent purchases from S. C. Levin and Nathan Blumenfeld of their Park and Selma, at Selma; the American, Kingsburg, and the Fowler, at Fowler, both formerly owned by Levin.

Autry Reception

Gene Autry will be honor guest at a reception at the Hotel Astor here on Friday afternoon to mark his association with Columbia as producer and star, beginning May 15.

WB Sound Talks Here Conclude

Keying their talks to achieving even better quality in sound performance, Warner circuit zone sound engineers discussed plans for closer coordination between studio and theatre as they wound up their two-day session here last night with Nathan Levinson, head of sound activities at the Warner Coast studios. New standards, placements, power supplies and local sound problems were also covered.

Demonstrations of new equipment were given, with executives of RCA, Simplex and other firms addressing the sound men on recent developments. Frank E. Cahill, Jr., director of sound for Warner Theatres, also participated.

Public Hearings on Studio Red Probe

WASHINGTON, April 29.—Rep. J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of a House group leaving next week to investigate communist activities in Hollywood, announced that he will hold public hearings here on the matter "very soon after" he returns.

The group is a sub-committee of the House Un-American Activities Committee, which Thomas also heads. He revealed that the hearings will be "quite extensive" and that he expects them to result in "the best show the committee has had yet."

No public hearings are planned for Hollywood at this time.

Reagan Shifts 3 in Para. Field Posts

Shifts in three Paramount branch posts, with Heywood Simmons succeeding the late Fred Larned as Dallas branch manager and Tom Bridge assuming Simmons' sales manager's post in Dallas, were announced here yesterday by Charles M. Reagan, Paramount distribution chief. Simmons has been San Francisco manager.

John Bowles, who was made assistant to George A. Smith, Paramount Western division sales manager, earlier this year, with headquarters in Los Angeles, has been promoted to the San Francisco post vacated by Bridge.

Industry to Aid NY Infirmary Campaign

May 11 to 18 will be "Tribute to Women Week" in the New York Infirmary's $5,000,000 building drive, announce Helen Hayes and Harry Brandt, co-chairman of the entertainment committee for the campaign.

Top entertainment figures will appear at several events planned to aid the drive for a new medical center for the 94-year-old infirmary.

'Orleans' Gross $10,000

NEW ORLEANS, April 29.—A near-record figure of more than $10,000 was reached by United Artists' "New Orleans" at its opening here at the Saenger Theatre over the weekend, it is understood. The picture has been set for an indefinite run.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco. New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco. London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



YOU CAN READ THIS IN TWO SHAKES OF A LAMB'S TAIL!

During the past few weeks California Preview audiences have witnessed
A succession of coming M-G-M pictures which have electrified all Hollywood!
Never—no never!—in all M-G-M annals has Leo revealed such product!
For instance, CLARK GABLE'S "THE HUCKSTERS"—
Oh how that audience cheered! And equally sensational is
"SONG OF LOVE." Its Preview was an historic occasion!
Remember these M-G-M titles! They're the talk of the West Coast!
"FIESTA," Technicolor's Biggest Spectacle!
"GREEN DOLPHIN STREET," a Giant Drama in M-G-M's mightiest tradition!
"CYNTHIA"—with "Green Years" appeal!
"THE UNFINISHED DANCE" Technicolor wizardry!
"THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE" tremendous!
"LIVING IN A BIG WAY," comedy smash!
One after another they thrilled Preview audiences just as they'll thrill yours.
And watch for more big M-G-M news! 15 mighty productions under way—
A production program never—no never—witnessed before in this
Entire industry! Oh Mister M-G-M Exhibitor, be proud!
Great hits are on the way from your pal—Leo the Leader!



TWO MORE SHAKES TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE STAR CASTS!

"THE HUCKSTERS"—Clark Gable, Deborah Kerr, Sydney Greenstreet, Adolphe Menjou, Ava Gardner, Keenan Wynn, Edward Arnold • "SONG OF LOVE"—Katharine Hepburn, Paul Henreid, Robert Walker • "FIESTA" (Technicolor)—Esther Williams, Ricardo Montalban, Akim Tamiroff, Cyd Charisse, John Carroll, Mary Astor, Fortunio Bonanova • "GREEN DOLPHIN STREET"—Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed, Richard Hart "CYNTHIA"—Elizabeth Taylor, George Murphy, S. Z. Sakall, Mary Astor • "THE UNFINISHED DANCE" (Technicolor)—Margaret O'Brien, Cyd Charisse, Karin Booth, Danny Thomas • "THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE"—Van Johnson, Janet Leigh, Thomas Mitchell, Marshall Thompson, Selena Royle, Dean Stockwell "LIVING IN A BIG WAY"—Gene Kelly, Marie McDonald, Charles Winninger, Phyllis Thaxter, Spring Byington

Vehicle Ads Hit By NYC Action

New York City Police Department action against vehicular advertising involving the Railway Express Agency, which uses poster boards on its trucks, has been taken. Film companies occasionally buy the truck side advertising space. The department last week also halted a Universal-International mobile unit advertising "Odd Man Out."

The ordinance under which the police are acting is Section No. 124 of traffic regulations. It states that "No person shall operate or cause to be operated in or upon any street an advertising vehicle," and carries the exception, as follows: " . . . provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the putting of business notices upon business vehicles so long as such vehicles are engaged in the usual business of the owner or not merely or mainly used for advertising."

In what appears to be a test case the department won a victory over Railway Express in Magistrate's Court for violation of the ordinance. The appellate term of Magistrate's Court affirmed the conviction and an appeal has been taken to the Appellate Division of the State Supreme Court, by Railway Express.

RMA Adds 6 Members; Total Is Now 345

WASHINGTON, April 29.—Board of directors of the Radio Manufacturers Association has voted membership approval for six more radio manufacturers. RMA's membership of 345 is now at a high point.

The six new members are: Clipard Instrument Laboratory, Cincinnati; Columbus Electronics Corp., Yonkers, N. Y.; Crucible Steel Co. of America, New York; Miller Manufacturing Co., Glen Cove, N. Y.; Valpey Crystal Corp., Holliston, Mass.; Wheeler Laboratories, Great Neck, N. Y.

Foreign Film House To Be Built Here

As soon as building materials become available, a new house, the International Theatre, will be built on West 42nd Street, between Broadway and Sixth Avenue, by the Invincible Theatre Corp.

Included in the organization are Arthur Mayer, Sam Dembow and M. B. Shanberg. The 600-seat house will be operated by Mayer as an outlet for first-run foreign product.

Harmon Heads for N.Y.

WASHINGTON, April 29.—Francis S. Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Export Association, left here for New York today after conferring with Assistant Secretary of War Howard C. Peterson on the Army's position on rebuilding the German film industry.

Crosley Gets Approval

CINCINNATI, April 29. — The Federal Communications Commission has approved an application of the Crosley Broadcasting Co. here for a television station at Dayton. The company, currently operating a local experimental station, recently was granted approval for a station here and one at Columbus.

Juvenile Case Judge Praises Pictures

Memphis, April 29. — Judge Camille Kelley, who is said to have tried more juvenile behavior cases than anyone in the country paid tribute to the film industry at a Variety Club luncheon here, declaring that in 45,000 cases in her court, "not more than half-a-dozen times" have films been named as a cause of delinquency. "People who decry pictures do not know the picture," Judge Kelley said.

Academy Slated to Elect New Officers

HOLLYWOOD, April 29.—Newly-elected board of governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences was to meet here tonight to select officers from among 22 governors chosen to represent the Academy's 11 branches. Two candidates are elected from each branch, with the top entrant serving two years.

Election results announced late last night disclosed that voting ties occurred in the art, director, music, executives and producers branches. Donald Nelson accepted a one-year term.

Other results were: Actors, Jean Hersholt, two years; George Murphy, one; directors, William Wyler, two years; Delmer Daves, one; public relations, Perry Lieber, two; Howard Strickling, one; writers, Charles Brackett, two; Mary McCall, Jr., one; short subjects, Frederick C. Quimby, two; Louis Notarius, one; film editors, William W. Hornbeck, two; Frederick S. Richard, one; cinematographers, Charles G. Clarke, two; Farciot Edouart, one; sound, Thomas T. Moulton, two; Gordon Sawyer, one; art directors, Urie McCleary, two; Robert Haas, one.

In the art directors' branch, Haas tied with Richard Day, but Day declined because of business pressure. In music, Morris Stoloff was chosen for a two-year term, while a tie resulted for the shorter term.

W. W. Lynch Is New Birdwell President

W. Ware Lynch is the new president of Russell Birdwell and Associates here. Lynch has been general manager of the public-relations firm for the past four years.

Paul V. Coates Associates will represent the company on the Coast, where Birdwell recently closed the corporation's offices. Birdwell will remain in an advisory capacity.

Grand Nat'l Settlement

Final disposition of creditors' claims in the bankruptcy settlement of Grand National Pictures has been scheduled by referee Peter B. Olney, here, for tomorrow. Final meeting of creditors was held in Olney's office.

Goldstone Appointed

All-American News and All-American Pictures have appointed Harry Goldstone of Famous Pictures Film Exchange as Eastern sales manager covering New York, Philadelphia and Washington.

Foreign Film Unit Plans 3 US Offices

United Foreign Films Distributors, new co-operative agency for U. S. distribution of foreign films, now being organized by Martin Levine, plans to set up offices in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, Levine said here yesterday. He also said that Siritzky International, Superfilm Distributors, Distinguished Films and Vog Films are expected to form the basis of the organization, and that all plans will be set in motion upon the return here shortly of Oliver Unger of Distinguished, who is making a nationwide survey of foreign film outlets.

Levine said a mushrooming of "art" theatres across the country and evidence of increasing popularity here of French-made pictures would make the planned organization of value to distributors of foreign films, since those distributors operating singly have found it impossible to get up for themselves the bookings that would be available under a nationwide set-up.

He said the new organization's operations in behalf of foreign film distributors could be likened to United Artists' operations in behalf of independent producers. It is likely, Levine added, that some 30 foreign film distributors will be serviced by United ultimately.

10 U. S. Films in Brussels Festival

Ten American-made films have been entered in the Belgian Film Festival to be held in Brussels in June, announces E. Lapinere, Paris chairman of the Motion Picture Association's public relations committee, the MPA disclosed here yesterday.

The films are: Columbia's "Down to Earth," Walt Disney's "Song of the South," Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives," M-G-M's "The Yearling," Paramount's "To Each His Own," RKO-Radio's "It's a Wonderful Life," 20th Century-Fox's "The Razor's Edge," United Artists' "Carnegie Hall," Universal-International's "The Egg and I," Warner Brothers' "Humoresque."

Youngstein to Exchanges

Max E. Youngstein, Eagle-Lion director of advertising-publicity, has left the home office, here, to join A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and sales manager of the company, on a tour of company exchanges. Youngstein's tour will culminate with a visit to Eagle-Lion's studios in Hollywood, where he and studio publicity director Sam Israel will confer on plans for the world premiere of "Repeat Performance," on May 22, in Zanesville, Ohio.

Youngstein will return to New York each weekend during the tour for home office conferences.

Optima Heads to Paris

Maurice Livingston, vice-president of International Optima Corp., newly-formed distributing organization handling independent productions for export abroad, will fly to Paris tomorrow on a sales trip. While there, he will confer with Joseph Auerbach, International Optima president, also of New York, who will later go to Prague in connection with an independent Czechoslovakian production in which he has a financial interest. Livingston will also visit Rome, Belgium and London.

Coast Trust Retrial Off; Ruling in June

SEATTLE, April 29. — In a last-minute postponement of the anti-trust suit brought by Theatre Investing Co. against RKO-Radio, Judge John C. Bowen of the Federal District court said the retrial, scheduled for today, was called off with the approval of both parties. Bowen added that he would reconsider evidence presented at the first trial and would take under advisement subsequent briefs. A decision will be rendered about mid-June, he said.

Mario Meneghini, 55, 'L'Osservatore' Critic

Mario Meneghini, 55, motion picture reviewer and columnist for *L'Osservatore Romano,* Vatican City daily newspaper, died in Rome on April 18, according to word just received in New York.

A native of Venice, Meneghini was an art critic as well as film specialist. On account of the international circulation of *L'Osservatore Romano* his film commentaries had wide influence. In 1945 Meneghini was one of the advisers who assisted in the drafting of "La Codice per la Cinematografia," Italian motion picture production code which was modeled after the earlier American Production Code.

Services Tomorrow For Wm. J. Westberg

Requiem mass will be celebrated tomorrow morning at St. Gerard's Church, Hollis, L. I., for William J. Westberg, 55, vice-president of Filmlab, Inc., who died Sunday at his Hollis home. A pioneer laboratory technician, Westberg started with the old Vitagraph in Brooklyn 40 years ago. He was vice-president of Filmlab since 1925.

Survivors include his widow, Grace; a daughter, Mrs. Grace Weller, and a brother, Harry Westberg of Staten Island.

Sophia White Funeral

CINCINNATI, April 29.—Funeral services were held yesterday for Sophia L. White, 73, mother of Maurice White, local circuit operator, who died at her home here on Sunday.

Spanish Films Dropped

KANSAS CITY, April 29. — The Dickinson Circuit's Tampico Theatre here has abandoned its year-old Spanish-language film policy to show first-runs. "The Heart of New York," a first-run reissue, and "'Neath Canadian Skies" are on the first new bill.

Building Aid Promised

CHARLOTTE, N. C., April 29.—Congressman Hamilton C. Jones of this city says that he will assist Albert E. Miller of Lincolnton and Hickory, N. C., to get Civilian Production Administration permission to build theatres at Maiden and Stanley, N. C.

Van Ravens in New Post

HOLLYWOOD, April 29. — Albert E. Van Ravens has joined the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners as publicity chief.

Tornado Benefit Nets $261

OKLAHOMA CITY, April 29. — The Woodward tornado relief benefit preview at the Criterion Theatre here netted $261.

"...BROAD IN THE SHOULDER...
WITH FIRE IN HIS BLOOD...
AND NOT TOO EASY TO HOLD ON TO!"



There's no thrill like the thrill of Cornel Wilde and Maureen O'Hara in "THE HOMESTRETCH" in Technicolor!



A glorious romance
that hits all the high spots
of the world . . . set against the
breathless excitement of the
world's most famous racing classics!

CORNEL WILDE
MAUREEN O'HARA

THE HOMESTRETCH

IN TECHNICOLOR

with

Glenn Langan · Helen Walker

James Gleason · Henry Stephenson

Margaret Bannerman · Ethel Griffies · Tommy Cook

Directed by **BRUCE HUMBERSTONE**

Produced by **ROBERT BASSLER** · Original Screen Play by Wanda Tuchock

THERE'S NO COMPANY WITH SUCH GREAT TECHNICOLOR TRIUMPHS AS

BOB, SON OF BATTLE *In Technicolor* • **FOREVER AMBER** *In Technicolor* • **MOTHER WORE TIGHTS** *In Technicolor*
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW *In Technicolor* • **CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE** *In Technicolor*

20th CENTURY-FOX

PRINTED IN U. S. A.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CLEVELAND

In its fourth week, "The Best Years of Our Lives" is still holding up, while "Song of Scheherazade" and "The Yearling" are also registering above average. Estimated receipts for the week ending April 29-30:

THE RED HOUSE (UA)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,000)
SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $23,800)
THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c) 3rd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $11,000)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—LOWER MALL (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25-$1.50) 4th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average at regular price: $9,500)
SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I)—ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,000)
THE MICHIGAN KID (U-I)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (60c-85c-95c). On stage: Sammy Kaye orchestra. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $30,000)
SEA WOLF (WB reissue) and THE SEA HAWK (WB reissue)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c). Gross: $19,500. (Average: $22,600)
STALLION ROAD (WB)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $3,250. (Average: $3,650)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—UNIVERSITY (917) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25c-$1.50) 4th week. Gross: $13,000. (Average at regular prices: $9,500)

BUFFALO

Some grosses are off. Weather was cold and uncomfortable. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 1:

STALLION ROAD (WB) and SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI (Mono.)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $19,000)
SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.) and EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000)
THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 3rd week on a moveover. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)
SMASH-UP (U-I) and SECRET OF THE WHISTLER (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,000)
THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)
TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio) and BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $16,000)

PITTSBURGH

Of three newcomers in first-run houses, only "Dead Reckoning" did better than average. Of the holdovers, "The Best Years of Our Lives" still doing better than average, went into its eighth and final week at the Fulton. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 1:

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—FULTON (1,700) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 8th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average at regular prices of 54c-94c: $9,700)
DEAD RECKONING (Col.)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $16,000 (Average: $11,000)
THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $25,000)
THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,500)

Reviews

"Homesteaders of Paradise Valley"

(Republic)

"HOMESTEADERS of Paradise Valley packs enough action and other attributes to please Western fans, with Allan Lane, as "Red Ryder," handling his chores smoothly. These chores consist principally in shepherding a wagon-train of settlers to a new community, keeping them resolute in their tribulations and unmasking some unscrupulous money-hungry culprits who seek to foist control over water rights. For a while Lane's road is a tough one since, momentarily thwarted by slick operators of a nearby town who have encouraged his antagonist within the community, he leaves for a job in a neighboring town.

But Lane comes through with flying colors, after having fought a two-front battle against the swindlers and a wrathful citizenry who believe Lane has sold them out. Lending competent support to the doings are: Bobby Blake, Lane's little Indian pal; Matha Wentworth, Ann Todd, Gene Stutenroth, Milton Kibbee and Emmett Vogan. Associate producer was Sidney Picker, with R. G. Springsteen directing, from an original by Earle Snell.

Running time, 59 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 1.

IRVING KAPLAN

"Six Gun Serenade"

(Monogram)

A FORMULA Western, amply stocked with gun-fighting, fisticuffs and chases, "Six Gun Serenade" has what it takes to keep devotees of cowboy fare engrossed. Silver-voiced Jimmy Wakely (he sings several cowboy ballads, and sings 'em well) is pitted against a band of cattle rustlers, led by Steve Clark in the role of a town banker. Clark's principal henchman is played by Jimmie Martin, who, as the foreman of the ranch owned by pretty Kay Morley, sees to it that her herd is not on hand when a potential purchaser arrives, because Clark's scheme is to prevent the sale so that she will not have the money to pay off the mortgage he holds on her property.

Needless to say, Wakely and his side-kick, Lee (Lasses) White, and several others of Miss Morley's straight-shooting ranch hands, succeed in preventing Clark's scheme from working. Rounding out the cast are Pierce Lyden, Bud Osborne and Rivers Lewis. Ford Beebe directed from an original by Ben Cohen. Barney Sarecky produced.

Running time, 55 minutes. General audience classification.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

New York Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

Duke Ellington's band scored with a $100,000 gross. "Homestretch," with Hazel Scott, Henny Youngman and Carl Ravazza topping a stage show, did a favorable $90,000 in its first week at the Roxy. Jack Benny and the talent featured on his radio show will appear at the Roxy for a limited engagement beginning May 23. The picture probably will be "Brasher Doubloon."

"Best Years of Our Lives" is expected to chalk up another good gross, this $36,000, in its 23rd week at the Astor. At the Strand, "Stallion Road," combined with Cab Calloway in person, is running mildly in a fourth and final week, on an estimated gross of $35,000; "Love and Learn" will bow in on Friday.

A fourth week's gross of $22,000 is satisfactory for "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," at the Hollywood. "The Farmer's Daughter" is holding up well at the Rivoli with $31,000 indicated for a sixth week.

"The Macomber Affair" is still big at the Globe, with $37,000 expected for its second week. The Capitol is operating profitably with "Smash-Up" which, with Xavier Cugat's orchestra on stage, probably will bring in $73,000 in a third week; the show will go another week, to be followed by "Duel in the Sun" on May 7. This is one of 54 day-and-date bookings of the film in the Metropolitan area.

"Trail Street," in a third week at the Palace, was limited to $13,000; "Born to Kill" will replace it today. "Tarzan and the Huntress" also showed signs of exhaustion at the Gotham, where only $7,500 is looked for in a fourth and final week; "Hit Parade of 1947" will open at that house on Friday.

Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux" is slipping at the Broadway Theatre where about $22,000—not too much—is anticipated for a third week. Third week of "Buck Privates Come Home," at the Criterion, also is a slow one, figuring on a gross of $12,000. "Dead of Night" is headed for an unimportant $5,000 in a week's run at the Park. "Carnegie Hall" will open on Friday at both the Winter Garden, on a continuous policy, and the Park, on a two-a-day run at $2.40 top. "Untamed Fury" is doing about average in a week at the Rialto, where a $7,500 gross is likely; it will be succeeded on Friday by "The Big Fix."

THE SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I)—SENATOR (1,700). (40c-55c-70c) 5 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Harris. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,200)
SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $25,000)
THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)

Broggi Opens Office

NEW ORLEANS, April 29.—J. C. Broggi has opened his own buying and booking office after 30 years in distribution and exhibition. Broggi was with Arthur C. Bromberg Attractions for 14 years and with 20th Century-Fox for 15. For the past year he was branch manager of the Screen Guild-Film Classics exchange.

Nelson Visits Truman

WASHINGTON, April 29.—Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, had a brief interview with President Truman this morning, which he described as "just a nice friendly visit."

Axelbank Charges Copyright Breach

Charging violation of trust and infringement of copyright in connection with the exhibition since 1937 of portions of the film "Tsar to Lenin," Herman Axelbank, producer and present receiver of the picture, filed in New York Supreme Court yesterday a suit seeking a total of $1,900,000 damages, against former receivers Alan S. Hayes, Harold J. Blockman, Lenaur International Films, and Max Eastman.

Scanlon Named Manager

HARTFORD, April 29.—John Scanlon, Jr., has been appointed manager of the Strand Theatre, Thompsonville, replacing Tom Grogan, who has resigned to go into the automobile business. Scanlon is the son of John Scanlon, manager of the Warner Theatre, Torrington. His most recent industry affiliation was as assistant manager at the Torrington house.

Chaplin to Testify Today

Charles Chaplin is expected to testify personally in his own defense today in New York Federal Court in connection with Konrad Bercovici's $5,000,000 suit charging Chaplin with infringement of rights and breach of contract regarding production and distribution of "The Great Dictator."

Porter on 16mm. Deal

HOLLYWOOD, April 29.—William Z. Porter, contract manager at Monogram studio, has left here for Chicago to confer with executives of Ideal Pictures Corp., which several years ago made a deal for 16mm. distribution of Monogram output for non-commercial accounts.

Chevalier Plans Film

PHILADELPHIA, April 29.—Maurice Chevalier, whose one-man shows has opened here, is planning to make a motion picture in Hollywood at the end of the year. Three studios have submitted bids for his services, he disclosed here at a reception at the Ritz Carlton Hotel, but he has not yet made a choice.

'IA", NTS at Odds

Projectionists local No. 306 of the IATSE has declared National Theatre Supply "unfair," charging refusal of the company to enter into a collective bargaining agreement, the local said here yesterday. NTS service and installation employes, members of the local, have been negotiating with the company for some time for a contract, according to the local.

UA Annual Meet

Due to a typographical error, date of the annual meeting of United Artists stockholders and directors was given as May 8 in a head on a story in yesterday's MOTION PICTURE DAILY. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 6, by company bylaws, as the story stated. There is some probability, however, that it may be postponed.

Executive Business Woman

10 years' Film Exchange and Office Management Experience; 5 years' Personnel Administration. A valuable asset to any executive needing an assistant to relieve him of all details. Excellent References. Eastern Region Preferred.

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E-K Quarterly Sales Rise to $71,500,000

FLEMINGTON, N. J., April 29.—Eastman-Kodak's consolidated sales for the first quarter of 1947 were $71,500,000, as compared to the $53,000,000 in sales transacted during the same period in 1946, Thomas J. Hargrave, E-K president, told the company's stockholders at their annual meeting here today.

Hargrave pointed out that the increase was achieved even though the company held its average price increases to under 15 per cent of the 1939-40 price average of its products. He added, too, that E-K's materials' cost had increased 60 per cent and its labor costs 75 per cent in that time.

Hargrave was only partly optimistic about 1947 prospects because of the continually decreasing earning margin resulting from increased costs.

Among other changes effective May 15, E-K's stockholders approved a five-for-one split of the 2,488,242 shares of common stock into 12,441,210 shares of $10 par common.

'Business Film' House Planned for Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, April 29. — First "business film theatre" in the West will be opened here by Irving M. Levin, district manager of San Francisco Theatres, Inc. It is the Vogue Business Theatre, to be operated on weekdays from eight A.M. to five P.M. for the showing of 16mm. and 35mm. industrial, advertising, promotional, educational, travel, foreign and religious films. Regular Hollywood 35mm. entertainment product will be screened nightly and all day Saturdays and Sundays, as in the past.

WOKO Must Quit Air

WASHINGTON, April 29.—The Federal Communications Commission has denied a license renewal to radio station WOKO in Albany, N. Y., and has ordered it to leave the air on Aug. 31. The action was taken because the station allegedly concealed for 12 years that a stock interest was reputedly held by M. Pickard of Columbia Broadcasting.

Oppose Daylight Time

SACRAMENTO, Cal., April 29.—Pressure has been brought to bear on Assemblywoman Kathryn Niehouse of San Diego, author of a daylight saving measure, not to press action on her bill. Opponents include labor, agriculture, utilities and the motion picture industry. Proponents of the bill are banks, stock and bond houses and oil companies.

New Upstate Drive-In

ALBANY, N. Y., April 29.—Incorporation of Middletown Drive-In, Inc., was followed by an announcement here by Harry Lamont that construction will start on the outdoor theatre in that place this week.

CBS Asks Station Permit

WASHINGTON, April 29.—Columbia Broadcasting has filed application with the Federal Communications Commission to construct a new experimental television relay broadcast station in the New York area.

Skouras Trip

(Continued from page 1)

accompanied Skouras. Silverstone said that the company's income in South America will be "substantially improved" over that of last year.

Skouras said he did not fear competition in South America from foreign companies, adding: "It helps patronage. I have a great deal of confidence in American ingenuity, so that I feel American companies will always make the best pictures."



Murray Silverstone

Discussing ownership of South American theatres by American firms, Skouras said: "We don't want to acquire any theatres in Latin America, we prefer not to."

Saying that from 5,000 to 7,000 more theatres are needed in those countries, Skouras suggested that American companies encourage South American business men to build more. He added: "There is plenty of money there. We don't have to invest any." Between 300 and 400 theatres are under construction now in Latin America, he said.

South Americans are opposed to dubbed pictures, and 20th Century-Fox will not dub them, he said. Silverstone pointed out that the company had ceased the practice more than a year ago.

Skouras praised the Argentine exhibitors' association as having made great strides in caring for those employed in the industry. Patterned generally along the policy of the Motion Picture Foundation, the Argentine organization, known as the "ACA," provides pre-natal care, a sick fund and other benefits.

During the trip, Skouras and Silverstone visited more than 500 theatres in Mexico, Panama, Guatemala, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, Trinidad, Puerto Rico and Cuba.

Boehme Buys Out Brake

SEATTLE, April 29. — Hal Boehme has gained control of the Northwest franchise of Special Attractions Co., having purchased Al Brake's interest in the company.

To Continue Making

(Continued from page 1)

gotiation for additional top productions and star personalities. It is expected, it was said, that these deals will be as important as that recently announced with the Charles K. Feldman group, which will bring Lewis Milestone to produce and direct John Steinbeck's "The Red Pony," in Technicolor. Under this deal such stars as Robert Mitchum and Myrna Loy, who co-star in the film, will come to the studio. Yates pointed out that the story of Babe Ruth will be one of the biggest productions ever turned out on the lot.

Outdoor specials starring Roy Rogers will again be produced on special budgets and will benefit by the addition of name personalities such as Tito Guizar, who will appear in "The Old Spanish Trail," joining Rogers, Jane Frazee, Andy Devine and others.

Raw Stock Imports Tax-Free in Italy

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

ROME, April 23. (By Airmail).—Italy will allow the free importation of raw stock because of a shortage. The importation, however, must be handled without any transfer of currency. Instead, credits will be given to importing companies. Permission for such imports must be obtained from the Ministry of Foreign Trade.

An exhibit of pre-fabricated theatres and motion picture equipment will be held in Milan from May 24 to June 21. American companies have been invited to exhibit theatres and 16mm equipment.

The three box office champions here for 1946 were all American films: "Mrs. Miniver," which ran 194 days, "Two Faced Woman," 192 days, and "Suez," 161 days.

Ohio Representatives Relax on Hours

COLUMBUS, O., April 29. — The Ohio House of Representatives has passed the amended Kowalk bill, relaxing hours when women may work in theatres and other establishments and has sent it to the Senate. The bill would permit women over 21 to work after 10 P. M. as ticket sellers. An amendment killed the provision that girls 16 to 18 could work until 10 P. M. in theatres.

Markwell to Du Mont

Norman M. Markwell, formerly in advertising, has been appointed sales promotion manager of Du Mont Laboratories by Ernest A. Marx, television receiver division manager.

Give Nod for New Tax

BERKELEY, Cal., April 29. — The Berkeley League of Women Voters has endorsed the principle of a theatre admission tax for revenue for the city of Berkeley.

Paramount Meetings

(Continued from page 1)

May 15-16; Buffalo, May 19-20; Albany, May 21; New Haven, May 22; Boston, May 26-28; New York, May 29-31.

Meetings listed for Earle W. Sweigert, sales manager of the Mid Eastern division, are: Washington, May 5-6; Pittsburgh, May 7-8; Philadelphia, May 12-13; Detroit, May 14-15; Cleveland, May 16-17; Cincinnati, May 19-20.

Following are the meetings set for James J. Donohue, Central division sales manager: Dallas, May 26-27; Oklahoma City, May 28-29; Memphis, May 30-31; Chicago, June 2-3; Milwaukee, June 4; Minneapolis, June 5-6; Indianapolis, June 9-10.

Scheduled for George A. Smith, Western division sales manager, are: Los Angeles, May 5-6; San Francisco, May 7-9; Portland, May 9; Seattle, May 10-12; Salt Lake City, May 14; Denver, May 15-16; Omaha, May 17; Kansas City, May 19-20; Des Moines, May 21; St. Louis, May 22-23.

Presentation of prizes to winners of the company's 1946 sales contest will be made at the meetings. Paramount "One Hundred Per Cent Club" pins also are to be distributed.

Bernstein Elected ASCAP Treasurer

Louis Bernstein was elected treasurer of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers at a meeting here yesterday of the board of directors, which also renewed the terms of ASCAP's incumbent officers. The other officers are: Deems Taylor, president; Gustave Schirmer, and [illegible]aye car Hammerstein II, vice-presidents; George W. Meyer, secretary; Donald Gray, assistant secretary; Ray Henderson, assistant treasurer.

New Columbus House Set to Be First-Run

COLUMBUS, O., April 29.—The new Esquire Theatre will open here on May 7 as one of the five Academy circuit neighborhoods to move into the first-run field with simultaneous showings of Universal-International's "Stairway to Heaven." This marks the first time in local theatre history that such a policy has been attempted. The other theatres include the University, Westmont, Beechwold and Boulevard.

NAB Names Schechter

WASHINGTON, April 29. — A. A. Schechter, vice-president of Mutual Broadcasting, in charge of news, special events and publicity, has been named to the public relations executive committee of the National Association of Broadcasters.

30th Wometco Theatre

MIAMI, April 29. — Miami's first postwar theatre, the Miami, has opened here. Under construction for over a year, it is the 30th Wometco Theatre in Greater Miami.

Weitman Inducted

(Continued from page 1)

a program for the Lodge to be achieved this year.

Among those who paid tribute to the new Lodge president were Barney Balaban, Paramount Pictures president, who predicted that, with Weitman as its head, the Cinema Lodge would contribute even greater services for the industry.

Maurice A. Bergman, Universal Pictures' Eastern advertising-publicity director, welcomed Weitman on behalf of the Lodge. Officers were installed by Abraham Glovsky, president of B'nai B'rith District Grand Lodge, No. 20.

Besides Weitman, officers installed included vice-presidents Julius M. Collins, ASCAP; S. M. Chertok, theatrical producer; S. Arthur Glixon, attorney; Bernard Goodman, Warner Brothers; Leo Jaffe, Columbia Pictures; Marvin Kirsch, *Radio Daily;* Martin Levine, Brandt Theatres; Milton Livingston, Universal Pictures; Nat K. Loder, Republic Pictures; Louis A. Novins, Paramount Pictures.

Also, Max B. Blackman, Warner Brothers, treasurer; Malvin T. Davidson, attorney, secretary; Dr. Morris K. Silberman, monitor; and Rabbis Ralph Silverstein and Bernard Birstein as chaplains.

Sam Rinzler, Randforce Theatres head, presented the Lodge's parting gift to Levin and cited the outstanding year of Levin's presidency. Columnist Ed Sullivan was master-of-ceremonies of the entertainment program.

Another Drop In Production On the Coast

HOLLYWOOD, April 29.—Production has turned downward again, the OLting index standing at 36, compared with the previous level of 39. Eleven films have been completed, seven were started, and work has been resumed on Samuel Goldwyn's production, "The Bishop's Wife." The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Smoky River Serenade," "Son of Rusty," "Blondie in the Dough."
Shooting: "Two Blondes and a Redhead," "The Man from Colorado," "Assigned to Treasury" (Kennedy-Buchman).

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: "Love from a Stranger."

M-G-M

Started: "Alias a Gentleman," with Wallace Beery, Gladys George, Tom Drake, Dorothy Patrick.
Shooting: "The Pirate," "Good News."

Monogram

Finished: "Song of the Wasteland."
Started: "Robin Hood of Monterey," with Gilbert Roland, Chris-Pin Martin, Evelyn Brent.
Shooting: "The Hunted."

Paramount

Shooting: "Whispering Smith," "Shaggy" (Pine-Thomas).

PRC

Finished: "Bury Me Dead," "Ghost Town Renegades."
Started: "Tomorrow You Die," with John Ireland, Sheila Ryan, Hugh Beaumont, Jane Randolph; "It's Moider," with the Gas House Kids, Jan Bryant, Michael Whelan.

RKO Radio

Finished: "Dick Tracy vs. the Gruesome Gang."
Resumed Production: "The Bishop's Wife" (Goldwyn), with Cary Grant, Loretta Young, David Niven, Monty Woolley.
Shooting: "Memory of Love," "Mourning Becomes Electra," "Fighting Father Dunne," "Tycoon."

Republic

Shooting: "Robin Hood of Texas," "Along the Oregon Trail," "The Flame" (formerly "The Outcast").

Screen Guild

Finished: "Dark Bullet" (Fortune).

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie."

20th Century-Fox

Started: "Off to Buffalo," with Dan Dailey, Nancy Guild, Charles Winninger, Fay Bainter, Charlie Ruggles.
Shooting: "The Foxes of Harrow," "Kiss of Death," "Scudda Hoo, Scudda Hay."

United Artists

Finished: "Atlantis" (Nero).
Shooting: "The Marauders" (Hopalong Cassidy Productions).

Universal-International

Finished: "Singapore."
Started: "The Exile" (Fairbanks), with Douglas Fairbanks, Maria Montez, Paule Croset.

Shooting: "Something in the Wind," "Secret Beyond the Door" (Diana); "Lost Moment" (Wanger).

Warners

Finished: "Wallflower."
Started: "Silver River," with Errol Flynn, Ann Sheridan, Thomas Mitchell.
Shooting: "Treasure of the Sierra Madre," "Whiplash," "Voice of the Turtle," "Two Guys from Texas."

Reviews

"Philo Vance Returns"

(Producers Releasing Corp.)

WHAT William Wright, as the fictional detective in "Philo Vance Returns" needs is an adding machine or an accountant to tally up the multiplicity of corpses strewn along the rocky path to the unmasking of the culprit in this production, made by Howard Welsch; and so might audiences fascinated by the rapidity with which one follows another. But if gore and "Philo Vance" have scored previously, date this one on the booking chart.

Wright is called into the case by his friend, Damian O'Flynn, a wealthy playboy, when the latter's impending marriage to radio singer Ramsey Ames meets with foul play when she is murdered. The murder of O'Flynn follows, then a series of others involving his ex-wives, of which they are five, all of whom are to share in his will. Of course, it would be fairly easy to sit back and wait for the survivor, but not William Wright, who dashes forth in time to stop a second attempt on the life of Terry Austin, another ex-wife. Aiding this macabre bacchanalia are Leon Belasco and Clara Blandick. William Beaudine directed, from an original by Robert E. Kent. Because of the orgy of murders, this reviewer regards this as adult film fare.

Running time, 64 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, April 14. I. K.

"Desirable Lady"

(Screen Guild)

AN inconsequential little piece striving hard to create a furor over the trials of a well-intentioned young lady, a dancer by profession, in establishing her identity as heiress to her late grandfather's fortune, the producers of "Desirable Lady" apparently could not decide on a farce or melodrama. Either way, however, it furnishes little by way of entertainment or plot that has not already been said many, many times.

Jan Wiley, a winsome lass, is in the title role, with assistance from Phil Warren, as her agent and, subsequently, her intended, and Eddie Dunn, as a crook who concocts a plot to present Miss Wiley as the missing heiress. Additional support is given by Janet Scott, Emmett Vogan and Betty Blythe. Produced by J. Richard Westen and directed by Donald Brodie, the screenplay was written by Elizabeth Hayter, from an original story by Harry O. Hoyt.

Running time, 68 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 15. I. K.

"West to Glory"

(Producers Releasing Corp.)

ABOUNDING in action, gun duels and all the other appurtenances that combine to make a standard Western, "West to Glory," with Eddie Dean and his partner, Roscoe Ates, is one for devotees of horse opera.

Assigned to guard a fiesta at the home of Harry J. Vehar, who, in accordance with his custom, displays a valuable diamond necklace to his guests, Dean and Ates are on hand to see the holdup of a wagon carrying money secured by Vehar in order to enable him and his friends to move West to better grazing country. Engineered by Greg Barton, Jimmy Martin and Zon Murray, the robbery results in the killing of the driver. With the aid of Dolores Castle, masquerading as a guest at Vehar's ranch but actually an agent for the Mexican government, Dean and Ates succeed in rounding up the outlaws. Dean also adds to the entertainment with the rendition of three songs. Produced by Jerry Thomas and directed by Ray Taylor, the film is from an original by Elmer Clifton and Robert B. Churchill.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 12. I. K.

Toddy to Distribute

Royal Gospel Productions has appointed Toddy Pictures the distributor of its Negro spiritual film, "Going to Glory."

Family Radio Shows To Receive Awards

CHICAGO, April 29.—Citations will be awarded 10 family-life radio programs during "National Family Week," May 4-11, as winners of a national poll by the Inter-Council Committee on Christian Family Life.

The 10 programs, in order of preference, are: "One Man's Family"; "Fibber McGee and Molly"; "The Aldrich Family"; "Ma Perkins"; "Pepper Young's Family"; "Mayor of the Town"; "The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet"; "A Date with Judy"; "Life Can Be Beautiful" and "The Greatest Story Ever Told."

Hedges Nominated

National Broadcasting vice-president William S. Hedges has been nominated president of the Radio Executives Club. Elections will be held on May 1. Other nominees are: Regine Scheubel, vice-president; Louise Spalding, secretary; Ralph N. Weil, treasurer.

Short Subjects

"The Cat Concerto"

(M-G-M Cartoon)

A Tom and Jerry single-reel Technicolor cartoon, made by M-G-M short subject producer Fred Quimby, is the winner of the Academy Award for being the best cartoon of last year.

It is packed with amusing situations which will appeal to both children and adults alike. It makes the most of skilled animation in unfolding its humorous story, with Tom Cat making his appearance on the concert stage in a piano rendition of Liszt's Second Hungarian Rhapsody. His playing disturbs Jerry Mouse, who is asleep on the keys. As Tom continues to play Jerry awakens after being bounced around by the moving keys, and finally turns the table on the musical maestro. Running time, seven minutes.

"The New North"

(National Film Board of Canada)

Depicting the revolution in transportation effected by the construction of the Alaska Highway, the film notes the mineral wealth to which access is now provided, and also shows how the tourist trade is becoming a major industry. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Verona"

(Superfilm)

Locale for "Romeo and Juliet" in Shakespeare's play, Verona is an historic city in mid-Italy. The camera tours St. Peter's Hill, the Adige River which flows through the city and the castle, drawbridges and battlements along each side of the river. English commentary describes the historic sites in this Italian-produced film. Running time, 12 minutes.

"Polo"

(Columbia)

The fundamentals of this exciting game are demonstrated by Cecil Smith, top-ranking star of polo. Also shown is a very important phase of the sport, the care and training of the pony. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Pigs Is Pigs"

(Warner Brothers)

Not heeding his mother's warnings, Junior Pig stuffs himself with food. That night he dreams an ogre captures him and forces him to eat until he bursts. Awakening the next morning, however, Junior's appetite is still undaunted. A "Blue Ribbon Cartoon," in Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

UK Censor Views Role as 'Guardian'

LONDON, April 26 (By Airmail).—Approaching his new assignment as president of the British Board of Film Censors with the view that censors "are merely guardians of public taste" rather than usurpers of the parents' responsibility in selecting pictures for children to see, Sir Sidney West Harris won his appointment despite objections raised by some circles in the Kinematograph Renters' Society over his age. He is 71.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
April 5	BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—67 mins. (Rev. 2/27/47)	(April Releases) IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN Frank Sinatra Jimmy Durante C—103 mins. (Rev. 3/3/47) LITTLE MR. JIM Butch Jenkins James Craig D—94 mins. (Rev. 6/10/46) THE SEA OF GRASS Spencer Tracy Katharine Hepburn D—125 mins. (Rev. 2/13/47)	SIX GUN SERENADE Jimmy Wakely	MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE Bob Hope Dorothy Lamour C—87 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)	THREE ON A TICKET Hugh Beaumont Cheryl Walker D—62 min. (Rev. 4/7/47)	HOMESTEADERS OF PARADISE VALLEY TWILIGHT ON The RIO GRANDE O—71 mins. (Rev. 4/21/47) YANKEE FAKIR D—71 min. (Rev. 4/7/47)	(Block 4) TRAIL STREET Randolph Scott Robert Ryan O—84 mins. (Rev. 2/20/47) THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE Lawrence Tierney D—62 mins. (Rev. 2/27/47) BEAT THE BAND Frances Langford M—67 mins. (Rev. 2/24/47) CODE OF THE WEST James Warren O—57 mins. (Rev. 2/21/47) THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER Loretta Young Joseph Cotten C—97 mins. (Rev. 2/19/47)	(April Releases) THE LATE GEORGE APLEY Ronald Colman Peggy Cummins C—98 min. (Rev. 1/31/47) CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA Dick Haymes Vera-Ellen M—95 min. (Rev. 3/25/47) SAN DEMETRIO, LONDON Walter Fitzgerald Mervyn Johns D—76 min. (Rev. 4/1/47)	(Hughes) THE SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK Harold Lloyd C—89 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)	(April Releases) BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME Abbott-Costello C—77 mins. (Rev. 3/10/47) YOU CAN'T CHEAT AN HONEST MAN (Reissue) W. C. Fields C—73 mins. (Rev. 2/20/39) I STOLE A MILLION (Reissue) George Raft Claire Trevor D—78 mins. (Rev. 7/18/39)	STALLION ROAD Ronald Reagan Alexis Smith Zachary Scott D—97 min. (Rev. 3/19/47)
April 12	(April Releases) GUILT OF JANET AMES Rosalind Russell Melvyn Douglas D—81 mins. (Rev. 3/5/47)		VIOLENCE Nancy Coleman Michael O'Shea		PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE Alan Curtis Frank Jenks THE BIG FIX James Brown Noreen Nash WEST TO GLORY Eddie Dean	BELLS OF SAN ANGELO Roy Rogers Dale Evans			(Jules Levey) NEW ORLEANS Arturo de Cordova Dorothy Patrick M—89 min. (Rev. 4/25/47)		
April 19			HIGH CONQUEST Anna Lee Warren Douglas D—83 mins. (Rev. 3/13/47)			SPOILERS OF THE NORTH Paul Kelly Adrian Booth					
April 26				THE IMPERFECT LADY Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—97 mins. (Rev. 3/10/47)	FRONTIER FIGHTERS RAIDERS OF RED GAP PANHANDLE TRAIL CODE OF THE PLAINS THUNDERGAP OUTLAWS SHOOTIN' IRONS						(Reissue) THE SEA HAWK Errol Flynn Claude Rains (Reissue) THE SEA WOLF Edw. G. Robinson Ida Lupino
May 3	FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson D—69 mins.	(May Release) HIGH BARBAREE Van Johnson June Allyson D—91 min. (Rev. 3/13/47) UNDERCOVER MAISIE Ann Southern Barry Nelson C—90 min. (Rev. 3/4/47) (Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)	LAND OF THE LAWLESS J. Mack Brown Raymond Hatton (Reissue) QUEEN OF THE YUKON Charles Bickford Irene Rich	BLAZE OF NOON Anne Baxter William Holden D—90 mins. (Rev. 3/4/47)					(Enterprise) RAMROD Joel McCrea Veronica Lake O—94 mins. (Rev. 2/21/47) (Comet) ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (Color) Richard Martin Frances Rafferty D—65 mins.	(May Releases) TIME OUT OF MIND Phyllis Calvert Robert Hutton Ella Raines D—88 mins. (Rev. 3/7/47) THE WEB Edward O'Brien Ella Raines William Bendix	LOVE AND LEARN Jack Carson Robert Hutton C—85 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)
May 10	(May Releases) LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) D—77 mins. GUNFIGHTERS (Color)		HARD BOILED MAHONEY Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall C—63 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)		RIDERS OF RED ROCK (Eagle-Lion) RED STALLION Robert Paige Ted Donaldson BORDER FEUD	OREGON TRAIL SCOUTS Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min. THAT'S MY GAL (Color) Lynne Roberts Donald Barry	(Block 5) HONEYMOON Shirley Temple Franchot Tone C—74 mins. (Rev. 4/16/47)	(May Releases) THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR Rex Harrison Gene Tierney	(Hunt Stromberg) DISHONORED LADY Hedy Lamarr (Rev. 4/23/47)		
May 17	BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY Ron Randell D—70 mins.		SARGE GOES TO COLLEGE Alan Hale, Jr.	BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—60 min. (Rev. 2/18/47)	(Eagle-Lion) REPEAT PERFORMANCE Joan Leslie Louis Hayward	WINTER WONDERLAND Lynne Roberts Charles Drake D—71 min.	TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS Johnny Weismuller O—72 min. (Rev. 3/20/47)	HOMESTRETCH Cornel Wilde Maureen O'Hara D—96 mins. (Rev. 4/18/47)	(Hopalong Cassidy) DANGEROUS VENTURE William Boyd O—59 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)	THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay	
May 24	LAW OF THE CANYON Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette		BACKFIRE Johnny Mack Brown		TOO MANY WINNERS Hugh Beaumont (Reissue) THE CORSICAN BROTHERS Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. (Reissue) INTERNATIONAL LADY George Brent		BORN TO KILL Lawrence Tierney D—92 mins. (Rev. 4/21/47)	JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG Richard Travis Micheline Cheirel D—64 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)	(Sam Coslow) COPACABANA Groucho Marx Carmen Miranda M—92 mins.	(Reissue) MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION Irene Dunne Robert Taylor	THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS Humphrey Bogart Barbara Stanwyck D—100 min. (Rev 4/1/47)
May 31	THE MILLERSON CASE Warner Baxter PRAIRIE RAIDERS Charles Starrett	THE YEARLING Gregory Peck Jane Wyman D—134 min. (717) (Rev. 11/27/46)	SONG OF THE WASTELAND Jimmy Wakely	CALCUTTA Alan Ladd Wm. Bendix D—83 min. (Rev. 4/16/47)			A LIKELY STORY Barbara Hale Bill Williams C—88 mins. (Rev. 4/21/47)			(Reissue) 100 MEN AND A GIRL Deanna Durbin Leopold Stokowski	
June 1						THAT'S MY MAN Don Ameche Catherine McLeod SADDLE PALS Gene Autry	BANJO Sharyn Moffett Una O'Connor D—67 min. (Rev. 4/21/47)	(June Release) MOSS ROSE Peggy Cummins Victor Mature			
June 8						WEBB OF DANGER		MIRACLE OF 34TH STREET Maureen O'Hara John Payne			

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 85 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1947 TEN CENTS

Theatre Color Television Is Shown by RCA

Still Needs Improvement, Says RCA Video Chief

PHILADELPHIA, April 30.—An all-electronic color television system on a 7½-by-10 foot theatre screen was publicly demonstrated here today for the first time by RCA at Franklin Institute. Color motion picture films and slides were used in the demonstration.

It was maintained, however, by Dr. V. K. Zworykin, vice-president and technical consultant of the RCA Laboratories Division, that as advanced as the advent of large-screen television pictures appears at this time, it must be regarded as still in the laboratory stage.

Zworykin declared that several

(*Continued on page 8*)

Television Survey Urged for Industry

WASHINGTON, April 30.—The need for surveying the possible use of television in theatres and the technical and other difficulties that would be involved, were discussed here today by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, and by Loren L. Ryder, president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, and Paul J. Larsen, its chief consultant on theatre television.

Ryder and Larsen, in their conference with Johnston, brought up the possibility of establishing a group comprising the principal elements in the film industry to make a fact-finding survey of theatre television.

O'Dwyer Urges More Production in N. Y.

A renewed invitation to the industry to engage in more production activity in New York City was extended here yesterday by Mayor William O'Dwyer, who pledged full cooperation to the industry.

Meanwhile, a second meeting of industry representatives with New York City Commerce Commissioner George Sanders to discuss appointment of a city co-ordinator to clear the way of red tape for obtaining permits for shooting in the city, will be held tomorrow in Sanders' office here.

ATA Studies Collections

The American Theatres Association is considering theatre collections on a nationwide basis with a canvass of its board of directors already underway, according to Robert W. Coyne, executive director.

The project being studied is that proposed by the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, New York, in which national exhibition would sponsor a "National Health Week" in support of the "Three R's," these being ("Remedy, Relief and Rehabilitation.") The drive as it is now planned would be for the benefit of all charitable and disease-fighting organizations, including local community funds.

Coyne said that the ATA agreed to participate in such a campaign when it was suggested last year but this was abandoned when the American Red Cross and the March of Dimes

(*Continued on page 6*)

Federation Anti-Tax Meeting Tomorrow

Formulation of plans to assist exhibitors in New Jersey coastal cities in impending campaigns against local admission taxes, will top the agenda of a meeting of the Federation of New Jersey Theatre Owners, to be held at Newark tomorrow. George Gold, the Federation director-chairman, will preside.

Also slated for discussion is a report of Federation accomplishments in combatting admission tax threats to date, and plans for a permanent Federation structure, as a tax-fighting

(*Continued on page 8*)

Pabst and Jernigan In Southern Deals

NEW ORLEANS, April 30.—George Pabst, holder of a one-third interest in Screen Guild Productions of Louisiana and in Film Classics of the Southeast, has purchased the remaining interests in both from Joy Houck and E. V. Landaiche. Bill Thomas, formerly with Republic Pictures, has joined Screen Guild as salesman here.

Meanwhile, J. D. Jernigan, associated with Warner Brothers for 20 years, has acquired a one-third interest in the Memphis franchises of Screen Guild and of Film Classics.

Widespread Building In New Orleans Area

New Orleans, April 30.—Reports gathered along Film Row, here, indicate that some 26 new theatre projects are in the process of completion or are contemplated.

Exchange Rates in Mexico Unchanged

MEXICO CITY, April 30.—The film industry in this country, especially distributors of American and other foreign films, has been relieved of a major uneasiness, whether or not there is to be a change in foreign exchange rates, most important of which is the 4.85 pesos per U. S. dollar that has prevailed since September, 1939.

Ramon Beteta, Secretary of Finance, told the 13th annual convention of the Association of Bankers of Mexico, meeting at Acapulco, Pacific Coast resort, that the foreign exchange rate will not be altered, at least for the present. He explained that while some advantages might result from altering foreign exchange rates, such changes would do more harm than good to Mexican economy.

Other good news which Beteta's talks to the bankers brought to the film industry was that there will be no new taxes nor increases in existing imposts this year. The government, he said, will seek to obtain more income from existing taxes by improving tax collection methods, particularly the income tax.

Expect Relaxation On Building Today

Washington, April 30. — The House today considered amendments to the bill which would extend rent controls but end commercial construction curbs. It defeated, 123 to 35, a proposal to require building permits for commercial construction. A final vote is likely tomorrow or Friday. Passage is certain.

WASHINGTON, April 30.—The Government is expected to announce tomorrow or over the weekend a relaxation in its criteria for approving applications for commercial construction.

Drive-in theatres will be especially benefitted by a proposed new standard

(*Continued on page 8*)

Para. First To Open New Field Branch

Changes Under Decree Dictate Expansion

Paramount on June 1 will establish its first new exchange area in consequence of the New York Federal Court's anti-trust decision, in Jacksonville, Fla. It is the first major to take such action.

The idea of some new branches around the country, particularly in Jacksonville and San Antonio, has been under consideration by several companies. Paramount, like others, maintained only a shipping office in Jacksonville.

It is understood that closer and continuing contact with exhibitors as a result of the New York decision prompts the expansion. Resultant sales personnel changes are announced

(*Continued on page 8*)

Para. and Liberty Deal Nearly Set

HOLLYWOOD, April 30. — Deal whereby Liberty will be acquired by Paramount is approaching the conclusion line, but as of tonight it had not been closed. Partners in Liberty are bound by an agreement not to dispose of the company unless such a step is mutually agreed to, and thus far George Stevens has opposed a sale, but is reported about ready to withdraw objections after which his partners, Frank Capra, William Wyler and Samuel J. Briskin, would con-

(*Continued on page 8*)

MGM Meet to Hear Dietz Tomorrow

Howard Dietz, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity; Silas F. Seadler, advertising manager; William R. Ferguson, exploitation chief; Herbert

(*Continued on page 8*)

Reviewed Today

"Adventures of Don Coyote," "Philo Vance's Gamble," page 8. Key city grosses are given on page 7.

Personal Mention

CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ, Loew vice-president and treasurer, will return to New York from Florida on Monday.

•

CHARLES W. TRAMPE, Monogram and Allied Artists franchise owner in Milwaukee, has arrived in Los Angeles to participate in the tournament of the American Bowling Congress, as a member of a team representing Monogram Mid - West Film Co.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic distribution vice-president, will leave New York on May 10 for the Coast, from where he will later go to Mexico City for a vacation.

•

ROBERT S. BRAUNINGER, son of AL BRAUNINGER, manager of Warners' 16mm department here, has become engaged to DORIS MARIE WITTNEBEL, of New Rochelle.

•

LLOYD RUST, co-owner of the Monogram and Allied Artists franchise in Dallas, and MRS. RUST, are due to arrive in Hollywood on May 13.

•

MOE SILVER, Warner Theatres' Pittsburgh zone manager, and HARRY FEINSTEIN, his assistant, are visiting New York.

•

MILTON DURREAU, New Orleans branch manager for PRC, has returned to his headquarters from Dallas.

•

J. ROBERT RUBIN, M-G-M vice-president and general counsel, is in Durham, N. C., from New York.

•

E. J. DELANEY, owner-manager of the Pike Theatre, Magnolia, Miss., has been visiting in New Orleans.

•

ED WALTER, former Paramount head booker in Buffalo, has been promoted to Rochester salesman.

•

FRED QUIMBY, M-G-M short subjects head, will return to Hollywood from New York on Monday.

•

ANDY ANDERSON, of the Paramount home office accounting department, is in Buffalo.

•

JULES LEVEY, United Artists producer, has returned to New York from New Orleans.

•

GEORGE L. CARRINGTON, president of Altec, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

E. S. SEELEY, Altec's chief engineer, has returned here from Chicago.

Devonshire in Deal

BOSTON, April 30. — Devonshire Films has sold a franchise for the Cleveland territory to Imperial Pictures, operated by Bernie Rubin.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

LAST night, that much-tossed about deal for the purchase of Liberty Films by Paramount was three-quarters of the way home. Frank Capra, William Wyler and Sam Briskin, three of Liberty's four partners, had signed. The stumbling block has been, and is, George Stevens, who remains firm in his intention to continue life as an independent producer.

Because Messrs. C., W. and B. want to make a deal like this —latterly Metro was a close contender and Universal was in the picture somewhat earlier— and because the relations between all of Liberty's partners are so pleasant, Stevens is now amenable to the plan—for the others, not for himself.

■

Therefore, and unless obstacles and changes of heart not foreseen enter the situation, and this could well be, it is anticipated Stevens will go along by withdrawing from Liberty and thereby make the sale to Paramount a cinch. It is understood he is prepared to do this, that he has the required papers awaiting his signature, that thereafter he will announce an affiliation with Leo McCarey in Rainbow Productions.

The basis of the arrangement remains unchanged. Paramount will absorb Liberty complete at a figure close to $5,000,000 in common stock. Liberty assets passing to the buyer will include its share in "State of the Union," which Capra will make for Metro, its interest in "It's a Wonderful Life," which RKO Radio is now distributing, Stevens' interest in the forthcoming "I Remember Mama," which he will start shortly for RKO, and probably his interest in "The Wayward Bus."

■

Very important, of course, are the creative services of Capra and Wyler, who will become Paramount employes on five-year contracts, reputedly providing for participation in whatever films they may make. Briskin will have established for him a production post at Paramount, but in an association presently not clear insofar as Henry Ginsberg is concerned.

There is nothing smacking of the merger in this close-to-the line situation. Paramount is buying up Liberty, not taking on another series of outside producers. By assuming additional manpower in the form of employes and not partners, there would appear to be no ensuing repercussions such as those which trailed the Hal Wallis and Buddy De Sylva contracts of several years back.

At that time, Ginsberg had much fence-repairing on his hands. Producers and a few directors long and prominently associated with Paramount kicked up plenty of heels. What they kicked up heels about was simple: They wanted to know why they could not get the split-financing available to Wallis and De Sylva so that they, too, could be set up in business for themselves.

East-West feelings within Paramount got pretty close to an occasional ragged edge, moreover. The Hollywood viewpoint maintained that the studio was not brought into these two deals until they were closed, or so close to it that it no longer mattered. The New York approach was based on the belief the policy change was a good step and that the studio would have to adjust ruffled feelings as best it could.

Those feelings were adjusted eventually, but it took quite a bit of doing.

■ ■

Active retirement of Jack Flynn as Metro's Western sales manager falls on a surprised industry. It falls on a surprised Metro field force as well. Many Leo-men will regret it and so, too, will a large circle of exhibitors.

Flynn now becomes a consultant, with whatever connotations are automatically suggested, but supported, nevertheless, by an excellent reputation. He has always been a staunch advocate of proper selling, not slugging. As the representative of the company with which he has been associated so long, it would be incorrect to imply he was anything but constantly abreast of his obligation. But there is a way of doing things which can result in a happy in-between— happy for the seller and less noxious for the buyer.

It may be said of Flynn he had that way.

■ ■

Joe Skeptic says: Jules Levey is responsible for all that Memphis censor trouble. Memphis got mad at the industry because he produced 'New Orleans'. They're jealous of their background and proud of their civic rights in the South.

PCCITO Will Open 4-Day Meet Monday

HOLLYWOOD, April 30.—Open forums on a wide range of motion picture industry matters, including the New York Federal Court decree, checkers, rentals, arbitration and taxes, will be among the principal topics to be discussed in Los Angeles by the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners which convenes at the Ambassador Hotel there on Monday for a four-day conclave.

Mayor Fletcher Bowron will deliver the welcoming address and the keynote speech will be made by Robert Poole, executive secretary of PCCITO. Other speakers on the program are: Fred Wehrenberg, president, and Morris Loewenstein, secretary of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America; Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers; Loran Ryder, head of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, and actor Ronald Reagan.

Also to be discussed at the sessions are: the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers; clearance and runs, and unfair trade practices detrimentally affecting independent theatre operators.

Chaplin Denies Story Deal with Bercovici

A flat denial that he ever accepted any story ideas from Konrad Bercovici, writer, was made yesterday by Charles Chaplin, testifying in New York Federal Court in Bercovici's suit charging breach of contract and infringement of rights in connection with "The Great Dictator."

Chaplin told the jury that he had bought material only two times in his career—in 1929 or 1930, when he purchased rights to a book about Napoleon, and in 1937 when he purchased a story called "Regency." He traced his film career from 1910 until the present, in response to questioning by his attorney, Louis Frohlich.

Resume Contract Talk At News of the Day

Contract negotiations covering office employes of M-G-M's News of the Day will be resumed tomorrow by the company and Motion Picture Home Office Employes Union, Local No. H-63, IATSE.

A union spokesman said that negotiations will start tomorrow on a contract covering 50 office employes of Robbins, Feist and Miller, music publishing subsidiary of M-G-M.

Schary To Meet the Press

Dore Schary, newly elected production head of RKO Radio's studios in Hollywood, will meet the press at a reception next Tuesday at the "21 Club."

Daylight Saving Fails

NEW ORLEANS, April 30.—The New Orleans city council has rejected a proposal to put the city on daylight-saving time. Most of Louisiana and Mississippi is on regular time.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco. New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco. London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

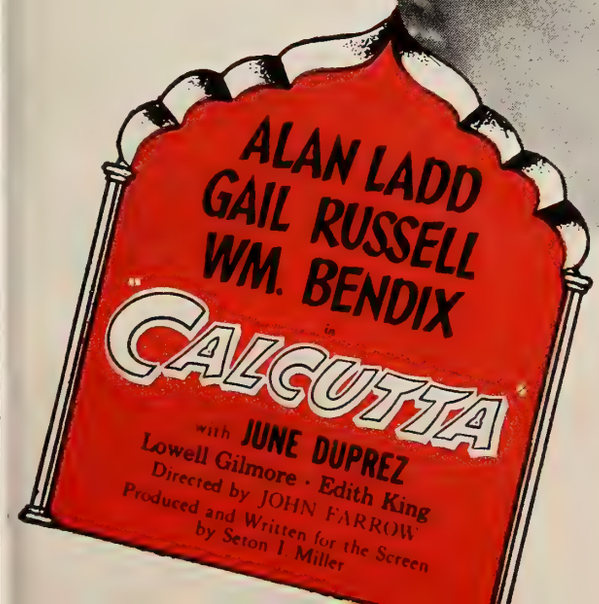
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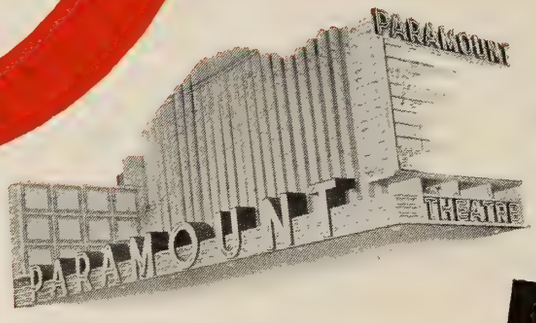
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INEST THEATRES, the
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OLLYWOOD • DAY & DATE



THAT'S MY MAN 5

SPOILERS of the NORTH 6

NORTHWEST OUTPOST 7

8 THE Fabulous SUZANNE

N SKY-ROCKETING REPUBLIC!

Canadian Budget Keeps 20% Tax

OTTAWA, April 30.—The Canadian government's budget, tabled in the House of Commons today by finance minister D. C. Abbott, seeks a large reduction in the personal income tax, effective July 1. No change would be made in the federal amusement tax of 20 per cent on theatre grosses, while war luxury taxation remains intact on candies and soft drinks. No change is made on excise tariffs on imports.

The government reported that amusement taxes collected during the year ending March 31 totaled $13,387,000, an increase of $1,100,000 over the previous fiscal year. Estimated revenue from this source for the next 12 months is $14,552,000.

Russell, Gallagher Switch

NEW ORLEANS, April 30.—N. D. Russell, Altec Service Corp. representative here, has been transferred to Atlanta to succeed G. R. Gallagher, who will take Russell's place here.



Producers, Painters In Meeting Today

Hollywood, April 30.—The producers' labor committee will meet tomorrow morning with representatives of the Painters' local in a conference on collective bargaining. It is regarded as among the most important single meetings of its kind since the studio strike started here last year. Herbert Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, will head the Painters' committee in his capacity as business agent of that local.

Admission Tax Rise In Puerto Rico Bill

By E. SANCHEZ ORTIZ

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, April 26 (By Airmail).—An increase of five per cent in the admission tax, from 20 to 25 per cent, is provided for in a bill approved by the legislature in a surprise move. Approval of the bill comes in the face of a demand from the Consumers Congress of Puerto Rico for an investigation into high admission prices charged by theatres.

The legislature, in another action, passed a bill providing for tax exemption for new industries, including motion picture production. The bill would exempt new production units for a period of 17 years, or until June 30, 1964.

In another bill, all public shows held for charitable institutions would be tax exempt.

Writer Sues Columbia In Precedent Case

HOLLYWOOD, April 30.—A $50,000 Superior Court suit, charging breach of contract in connection with "Gallant Journey," has been filed against Columbia by Byron Morgan, writer, who alleges that he "discovered" the story of John J. Montgomery on which the film was based, that Morgan wrote the screenplay and that Columbia subsequently refused him credit on the story.

The case is regarded as a precedent in that the Screen Writers Guild is said to be ready to supply Morgan with evidence of the value of publicity and advertising credits and the damage sustained by writers when such credits are omitted.

'Vendetta' Ad Budget Figured at $500,000

Plans for merchandising California Pictures' "Vendetta" are expected to call for an advertising budget of about $500,000, a company spokesman disclosed here yesterday. The picture, now in the scoring and editing stage in Hollywood, is expected to be released in the fall.

Beckett in New Post

Norman Beckett, traveling auditor for M-G-M, will succeed Eugene A. Coen, manager of the M-G-M office in Puerto Rico, who is resigning to rejoin the Peerless Travel Bureau, here, which he established some years ago.

3 More Foundation Trustees Elected

J. A. Becker, Independence, Mo., exhibitor, has been elected trustee, and Arthur Cole, Paramount, has been named permanent chairman of the Kansas City area of the Motion Picture Foundation. Thus far, 15 of the 17 committee members for the area have been selected.

Meanwhile, the area panel of the Michigan branch of the Foundation elected Earl J. Hudson trustee and C. L. Buermele permanent chairman at a Detroit meeting.

At a Boston meeting Martin J. Mullins was elected trustee and Harold Stoneman was named permanent chairman. They head a 34-man committee.

Ban on Outside Jobs For Film Musicians

HOLLYWOOD, April 30.—In a move calculated to spread employment among its members, the American Federation of Musicians here has ordered contract studio musicians not to take outside engagements which might ordinarily go to part-time and unemployed musicians. Issued by J. W. Gillette, international representative of the AFM, with the approval of James C. Petrillo, international president, the new regulations bar studio-contracted musicians, who make $133 or more a week, from outside engagements except for periodic symphonic performances.

Part-time studio musicians, making between $25 and $75 a week on the outside, are permitted one single studio engagement during the same week, while if they make more than $75 they are prohibited from taking studio work during the same week.

Morgan Addressing Coast Conferences

HOLLYWOOD, April. 30. — Richard Morgan, Paramount home office attorney, is addressing the four-day sales sessions being conducted at the local exchange here by Western division sales manager George A. Smith, with Denver, Seattle, Salt Lake, Portland and San Francisco branch managers attending.

Truman Signs D. of C. Daylight Time Bill

WASHINGTON, April 30.—President Truman today signed a bill to authorize District of Columbia Commissioners to put daylight-saving time into effect if desired by local citizens.

The commissioners have indicated that they will hold brief hearings, as required by law.

ATA Studies

(*Continued from page* 1)

refused to join with other organizations as beneficiaries.

He said that he anticipates many problems in planning any collection campaign and solution of these and establishment of an administrative staff would require six to seven months. The MMPTA hopes to have its drive in the fall. Allied States and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America also have been asked to cooperate.

Shift Academy Unit To MPA Backing

Hollywood, April 30.—The research council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has been separated from the Academy and set up on an independent basis with the Motion Picture Association supplying $500,000 for its support, Academy president Jean Hersholt revealed today in a belated report on action taken by the Academy.

French Producers To Film in Holland

By PHILIP De SCHAAP

AMSTERDAM, April 26 (By Airmail).—French producers apparently intend to get production under way here when Jean Cocteau, producer, and Jean Marais, actor, start a picture this spring or summer at the newly equipped Cinetone Studios. It is also understood that British producers are negotiating for use of the studios.

At the same time, it was learned through a survey that there are only 420 theatres in operation in the country at present. Before the war, Holland had 470 houses, 26 of which were destroyed during the war. An additional 24 are not in operation.

It is interesting to note that block booking is forbidden here by a government decree. A separate contract must be made for each picture.

7 Supervisors Named For Warner Drive

ALBANY, N. Y., April 30.—Seven supervisors have been appointed for the 13-week "C. J. Latta Show-Business Drive" in the Warner Theatres' Albany zone. They are: Joe Weinstein, Ralph E. Crabill, James P. Faughnan, Woodrow Campbell, Jerry Atkin, Max Friedman, and Charles A. Smakwitz, zone manager.

Artists Name Walker

Hudson D. Walker, president of the American Federation of Arts, has been appointed executive director of the Artists Equity Association, which held a membership meeting at the Museum of Modern Art here last night.

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Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

VOL. unseasonable stretch of bleak weather tempered the take at many first-run theatres here, although "The Egg and I" is holding to much better than average business for a fourth week in four of the six houses where it is running day-and-date; and some others are doing equally as well. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 30:

THE EGG AND I (U-I) — BRUIN (867) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $2,500)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio) and THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE (RKO Radio) — BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,100)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $11,500)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) —CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $15,600. (Average: $18,200)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) Gross: $18,500. (Average: $18,100)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio) and THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE (RKO Radio)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio) — FOX - BEVERLY (1,350) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 18th week. Gross $8,500. (Average: $12,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M) — FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) Gross: $17,500. (Average: $13,300)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio) — GUILD (965) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 7th week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $5,900)

FRAMED (Col.) and KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Col.) — HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $25,000. (Average: $19,800)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-50c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,200)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) and BACKLASH (20th - Fox) — LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $28,600)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M) — LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) Gross: $38,000. (Average: $22,600)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox) — LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,500)

THE PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $4,700)

THE PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $14,200)

THE PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,400)

THE PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $4,700)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Rado) and THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $18,800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PALACE (1,237) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 14th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $21,000)

FRAMED (Col.) and KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $20,800)

HIT PARADE OF 1947 (Rep.) and CALENDAR GIRL (Rep.)—Paramount (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $26,600)

HIT PARADE OF 1947 (Rep.) and CALENDAR GIRL (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $16,100)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,600)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,100)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,800)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,200)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—VOGUE (800) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.50-$1.80) 17th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE SEA HAWK (WB reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB reissue)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,200)

THE SEA HAWK (WB reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB reissue)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,500)

THE SEA HAWK (WB reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB reissue)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,900)

MINNEAPOLIS

The weather apparently was more attractive than the film fare here and so most grosses slumped for the week, except for "Best Years of Our Lives" and "The Sea of Grass," both of which topped averages. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 1:

HER SISTER'S SECRET (PRC) — CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c) Gross: $6,800. (Average: $7,300)

IT'S A JOKE, SON (Eagle - Lion) — GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $3,400)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 4th week. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $5,600)

DEAD RECKONING (Col.)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $14,500)

THE IMPERFECT LADY (Para.)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RKO PAN (1,500) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.50) 7th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average, at regular admission prices of 50c-70c: $8,500)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) Gross: $16,500. (Average: $13,000)

DENVER

In spite of rainy weather, grosses were not off much. "Suddenly It's Spring" holds at the Denham after a fine week. Estimated receipts for week ended April 30:

FANTASIA (RKO Radio reissue)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 1st week, after week at the Esquire. Gross: ($6,000. (Average: $4,000)

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M) and BORN TO SPEED (PRC)—BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c) 4 days, 4th week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $8,000)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 1st week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,000)

PURSUED (WB) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) 1st week, day-date with the Webber. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox) and KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Col.)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 1st week, day-date with the Paramount. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,000)

SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M) and SECRET OF THE WHISTLER (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,500)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox) and KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Col.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 1st week, day and date with the Esquire. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RIALTO (878) (Advanced-prices: 90c-$1.50) 3rd week, after four weeks at the Aladdin. Gross: $5,000. (Average at regular prices of 35c-74c: $3,000)

MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY (Col.)—TABOR (1,967) (35c-74c) 1st week, with a stage show. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,000)

PURSUED (WB) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) 1st week, day and date with the Denver. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $2,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

The first real spring-like week-end of the season cut a wide swathe in film grosses here. Only two productions are above average, including "The Egg and I," now finishing a 25-day run at Keith's with no sign of fading. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 29-30:

HENRY V (UA)—CINEMA (560) ($1.80-$2.40). Two a day, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000.

THE ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.) and THE GHOST GOES WILD (Rep.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c) Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000)

PURSUED (WB)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c) Gross: $10,500. (Average: $15,200)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c) 4 days, 4th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,500)

SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M) and THE LONE WOLF IN MEXICO (Col.) — LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c) Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,800)

SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio) — LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c) 7 days, on a moveover from the Indiana. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,700)

ST. LOUIS

Baseball and the circus were credited by exhibitors with keeping grosses at or below average. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 30:

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) and CRIMINAL COURT (RKO Radio)—AMBASSADOR (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) Gross: $16,000. (Average: $17,800)

THE SEA HAWK (WB reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB reissue)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c) Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,000)

DEAD RECKONING (Col.) and MILLIE'S DAUGHTER (Col.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c) Gross: $18,500. (Average: $20,000)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA) and SUSIE STEPS OUT (UA)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-60c-75c) On a moveover from Loew's State. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,000)

SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I) and PURSUED (WB)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) on a moveover from the Ambassador. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,400)

I STOLE A MILLION (U-I reissue) and YOU CAN'T CHEAT AN HONEST MAN (U-I reissue)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,300)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio) — SHUBERT (2,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.20) 3rd week, on a moveover from 3 weeks at the St. Louis. Gross: $7,000. (Regular admission prices: 40c-60c)

(Continued on following page)

Brady Retires After 40 Years at Eastman

Richard Brady, manager of the East Coast division of Eastman Kodak's motion picture film department and a pioneer in the industry, has retired after 40 years of service.

Brady, a native of Galishiels, Scotland, started as a partner in the photographic gallery of Brady and Sands, in Providence. After joining Eastman Kodak, Brady was assigned to the West for six years to spread information about the then new Velox photographic paper. Upon his return to New York, center of the industry at that time, Brady continued his efforts in film improvement.

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Key City Grosses

(Continued from preceding page)

PHILADELPHIA

"It Happened in Brooklyn" is away out in front with a $40,000 gross. Others going strong are "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "Buck Privates Come Home." Estimated receipts for the week ending April 29-May 1:

I'LL BE YOURS (U-I)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) Gross: $10,500. (Average: $13,800)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ARCADIA (900) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 4th week. Gross: $17,500. (Average at regular prices of 54c-94c: $6,600)
SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $25,500. (Average: $21,000)
SAN QUENTIN (RKO Radio) — EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days. On stage, Ina Ray Hutton. Gross: 6 days, $21,000.
ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.) — Gross: 1 day, $3,000. (Average: $31,700)
THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) —FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $14,750. (Average: $25,000)
SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.) — GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $24,000)
BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) Gross: $16,000. (Average: $6,200)
CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,200)
CALIFORNIA (Para.)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $29,500)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PIX (500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 4th week. Gross: $14,500. (Average at regular prices: $4,000)
IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M) —STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) Gross: $40,000. (Average: $27,000)
ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.) — STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) Gross: $18,000. (Average: $12,700)

BOSTON

Cold, unseasonal weather, with rain, failed to hamper most receipts. Heavily advertised films drew excellent business. Estimated grosses for the week ending April 30:

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox) —BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). On stage, Wally Brown. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $31,000).
PURSUED (WB) and WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c) Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,500)
FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and BANJO (RKO Radio)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $45,000 (9 days). (Average: $33,000 for 9 days)
STALLION ROAD (WB) and HARD BOILED MAHONEY (Mono.) — METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c) Gross: $31,000. (Average: $26,000)
SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c) 5 days. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $20,000 for 5 days)
PURSUED (WB) and WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c) Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,900)
SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c) 5 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $15,000 for 5 days)

SALT LAKE CITY

Crisp and cool weather prevailed, marked by only intermittent showers. Programs were well-balanced and the grosses were moderately satisfactory. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 1:

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA) — CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,800)
IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M) —CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) Gross: $15,900. (Average: $13,600)
BLONDIE'S BIG MOMENT (Col.) and SO DARK THE NIGHT (Col.) — LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c). With stage show. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,700)

Reviews

"Adventures of Don Coyote"

(Comet-United Artists)

A NEW and dashing character is introduced in the title role of Comet Productions' "Adventures of Don Coyote." Should the producers decide to give him further attention in the form of a series, he is sure to gain an increasingly large following.

The film itself, made in Cinecolor, is a curious blend of rip-roaring Western ingredients with slight costume-drama spicings. As the hero of the story, Richard Martin is a Spanish-accented fellow of daring deeds having a suave way with the ladies. Accompanied by Val Carlo, his faithful Sancho, the two become the willing victims of a scheme by attractive Frances Rafferty to make them the guardians of her ranch. It seems, in the screenplay of Bob Williams and Harold Tarshis, from an original by the former, that a group of outlaws has learned about the coming of a new railroad and decide to force Miss Rafferty off her ranch. A number of skirmishes follow, punctuated by some hard riding, and following which the bad men come to the customary end. Reginald LeBorg directed for producers Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn.

Running time, 65 minutes. General audience classification. Release date May 9.

MANNY HERBSTMAN

"Philo Vance's Gamble"

(Producers Releasing Corp.)

ALAN CURTIS makes his debut as super-sleuth Philo Vance, handling the role with passable grace in a story fashioned largely of threadbare material.

In the Eugene Conrad-Arthur St. Clair screenplay, Philo, accompanied by his bungling assistant, played with slap-stick emphasis by Frank Jenks, sets out, at the request of a pretty lady friend (Terry Austin) to see that the leader of a jewel-smuggling enterprise does not escape the country without sharing the profits on a surreptitiously-imported emerald. Her stage producer employer had misguidedly joined the smuggling ring to secure funds to finance Miss Austin in a show. Shortly after Philo takes the case, the ring leader is murdered and the emerald disappears. It is not until after a number of persons emerge as murder suspects, and two more killings take place that Philo finds the jewel and, through a trick, discovers that Miss Austin is the ruthless murderess and all along had sought to get the emerald for herself.

Direction by Basil Wrangell and performances in general are uninspired, but the film, being one which offers a good sprinkling of corpses and complications, should provide a satisfactory hour's entertainment for arm-chair detectives. Tala Birell, Gavin Gordon, Toni Todd, Garnett Marks, Joanne Frank, Dan Seymour and others complete the cast. Lawrence Edmund Taylor wrote the original story. Howard Welsch produced.

Running time, 62 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 12.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

L. D. Strong, Chicago Manufacturer, Dies

CHICAGO, April 30.—L. D. (Larry) Strong, founder and owner of the Essannay Electric Manufacturing Co., who began his career in the industry as a projectionist, died Sunday of a heart condition. He was 58.

Strong came to Chicago in 1912 from his home town, South Bend, Ind., and after working as a projectionist, launched his own business in 1920. He was a director of Local No. 110, IATSE, and a member of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, and the Theatre Equipment Manufacturers Association.

Federation Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

combination of all elements of New Jersey exhibition.

The new state law which empowers coastal cities exclusively to levy a three per cent admission tax, was prevented, through Federation efforts during the past legislative session, from being made to apply generally throughout the state. The Federation's intention now is to oppose passage of tax bills by the empowered municipalities.

BACKLASH (20th-Fox)—RIALTO (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,900)
SMASH-UP (U-I)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $4,800)
THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) —UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) Gross: $8,500. (Average: $5,900)
PURSUED (WB)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,300)

Building Rules

(Continued from page 1)

allowing any project which will have a "negligible impact" on housing. Drive-ins and similar projects consume few housing materials, officials explained.

All amusement construction will benefit from a liberation in the rules which determine "hardship cases" in granting construction authorization.

Housing officials said they expect further changes within a month. This will take the form, they said, of increasing the number of projects which would not require federal approval.

New Para. Branch

(Continued from page 1)

by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution.

Al Duren, Paramount sales manager in Atlanta, has been appointed head of the new Jacksonville office. He will be succeeded in Atlanta by William Holliday, now a salesman in Charlotte, who in turn will be replaced by Lawrence Terrell, Charlotte booking manager. Joseph L. Cutrell will move up to Terrell's post from booker.

Para. - Liberty Deal

(Continued from page 1)

summate their impending deal.

Should Paramount acquire Liberty, the three partners would become employes of the buyer, under five-year contracts.

M-G-M Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

Crooker, publicity manager here, and Max Weinberg, short subjects publicity head, will address the company's sales convention at the Hotel Astor here tomorrow. The meeting began Monday and will conclude Sunday night with a banquet.

A general session will be held today at which the five division staffs will report on their individual meetings of yesterday and Tuesday. Home office executives will be guests at a luncheon today, including Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer; Jay Gove, head of sales research; William D. Kelly, head of the print department; Arthur Lacks, newsreel sales; William G. Brenner, head of checking, and P. V. Thompson of the sales department.

Henderson M. Richey, head of exhibitor relations, introduced 11 newly-promoted sales executives to the trade press at a luncheon yesterday. They included: Burtus Bishop, Jr., Midwestern sales manager; Sam Gardner, assistant to George Hickey, West Coast sales manager; Thomas A. Aspell, Jr., Los Angeles; Jerome Adams, Washington; Jack Goldberg, Albany; Benn H. Rosenwald, Boston; Jacques C. ReVille, Charlotte; Charles D. Lyne, Oklahoma City; Sam Davis, Seattle, all managers; and M. L. Simons and Maurice N. Wolf, assistants to Richey. William Ornstein, trade contact, introduced the press to conference delegates.

John E. Flynn, who is retiring as Midwestern sales manager but will continue in an advisory capacity, also was introduced.

Theatre Television

(Continued from page 1)

years would be required for the full development of color television for theatres equal to the status of present black-and-white. He said it is passing through a series of development stages similar, in many respects, to those which black-and-white television passed through in its progression towards its present status.

Maintaining that the transition from monochrome television to simultaneous color television can be made in the future without obsolescence of the monochrome receiving and transmitting equipment, he said progress can be made without "loss of investment by the public, by manufacturers, or by television broadcasters."

Television of theatre-screen size in color represents "a spectacular advance in the art of sight and sound broadcasting, and holds prospects for the future." E. W. Engstrom, vice president in charge of research of RCA Laboratories declared.

Explaining the technical aspects of the color process, Zworykin revealed that three separate images in red, green and blue are transmitted at the same instant over adjoining television channels of the same band-width used in standard television. Then at the all-electronic receiver, the three-color signals are applied to kinescopes, or picture tubes, one with a red phosphor face, one blue, and the other green. The pictures formed on the face of each kinescope are projected by an optical system to the auditorium or theatre screen, where they are superimposed in registration to form a single image blended in the same colors as the original.

DO NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 86 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1947 TEN CENTS

New Theatre Building In High Over U.S.

Construction Reports Run Into the Hundreds

Washington, May 1. — The House late tonight passed the bill extending rent controls but ending all curbs on commercial construction, 204 to 182. Permits could still be required for amusement construction if local agencies certify a shortage of materials.

The pending Senate bill would not affect present commercial construction rules, but Rep. Wolcott has warned that he will fight to have building curbs dropped in conference committee.

A marked upsurge in new theatre construction activity, with costs running into millions of dollars, is in evidence in many sections of the country, according to reports from MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents in the field.

Hundreds of new houses are

(*Continued on page* 12)

US Relaxes Drive-in Ban

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, May 1. — Drive-in theatres and motion picture studio sets are among many commercial construction projects benefited by a relaxation announced today in a Government construction limitation order.

Government authorization will no longer be required, the Office of the Housing Expediter stated, for laying concrete surfaces or bases for drive-in the-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Film Heads Will Attend UJA Lunch

Billy Rose, Richard Rodgers and Emil Friedlander will sponsor a luncheon-meeting of leaders in the film and legitimate theatre fields, on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal,

(*Continued on page* 10)

Richards, Wilby, Fabian Get Presidential Awards

WASHINGTON, May 1.—Presidential Certificates of Merit were presented today to Ernest V. Richards, of New Orleans, Robert B. Wilby, Atlanta, and Simon H. Fabian, New York, for outstanding contributions to the United States war effort as leaders of the War Activities Committee of the motion picture industry. The presentations were made in behalf of President Truman, by Undersecretary of the Navy John L. Sullivan at ceremonies in the Navy Department.

In presenting the certificates, Sullivan said: "The services rendered by motion picture theatres throughout the country in the field of public information were of tremendous value to the Navy and to the nation. For these services, always liberally prof-

(*Continued on page* 10)

Rodgers Concludes Decree Discussions

Final discussions on operations of the New York decree were held here yesterday at a general meeting and at individual sessions held between M-G-M field sales managers and their respective district branch managers, head bookers and home office personnel, at the Astor Hotel. "The discussions covered every phase of the decree handed down by the Federal Court in New York some months ago," the company stated.

In addition to the decree, William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president, went over marketing plans for "The

(*Continued on page* 10)

20th Pays Million For Checking in '46

Twentieth Century-Fox paid $886,178 to Confidential Reports for checking percentage theatre receipts of its exhibitor customers in 1946, the corporation reports in proxy statements sent to stockholders yesterday in advance of the annual meeting to be held at the home office here on May 20. For the same service earlier in the same year it paid $109,738 to Ross Federal Service.

The company further states that it paid $325,345 in dues to the Motion

(*Continued on page* 10)

Para. Chiefs Off To Decree Meet

Executives of Paramount and its theatre subsidiary, Paramount Theatres Service Corp., will leave the home office today for Arrowhead Springs, Cal., to join theatre operating partners in a four-day meeting, to begin Tuesday, on operations under the New York Court's anti-trust decision.

The New York group includes Austin Keough, Paramount vice-president and general counsel; Edwin Weisl, director and attorney; Walter Gross, secretary; Robert O'Brien, secretary; Leonard Goldenson, presi-

(*Continued on page* 10)

"Miracle on 34th Street"

[*20th Century-Fox*] — **Laughter and Sentiment**

THE solemn question of whether there really is a Santa Claus comes in for some highly mirthful consideration in "Miracle on 34th Street." A rare blend of laughter and sentiment, it is the type of picture that casts a warm and pleasant glow over an audience. Were the universal appeal of the story not enough for an exhibitor to work with in exploitation, there are also on hand such performers as Maureen O'Hara, John Payne and Edmund Gwenn, the latter as a white-whiskered man with a benign smile and a conviction that he really is Santa Claus.

Locale of the story is mostly Macy's at New York's 34th Street, and the period between Thanksgiving and Christmas serves as the time. Watching Macy's annual holiday parade, Gwenn suddenly finds himself drafted into the role of Santa Claus. So popular does he become with the kiddies that a job in the store's toy department is his next step. Miss O'Hara, the store executive who did the hiring, soon becomes a bit

(*Continued on page* 12)

Johnston Bids Congress Aid Reciprocity

Cites Dangers to Trade Relations at Hearing

WASHINGTON, May 1.— Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston told Congress today that an expanding reciprocal trade program is essential to securing vital foreign markets for motion pictures and other key American products.



Eric Johnston

"The dollar is scarce abroad —that is America's trade problem," Johnston testified before the House Ways and Means Committee, which has been holding hearings for more than a month in reciprocal trade treaties.

"Other countries can't buy from us,"

(*Continued on page* 10)

Court Record Completed

Distributor attorneys and the Department of Justice yesterday completed part of the preliminaries to the actual hearing of appeals in the industry anti-trust decision, with all case-record documents sent to the clerk of the

(*Continued on page* 8)

WB to Buy Shares In Open Market

Warner Brothers' board of directors has authorized the purchase by the company of shares of its common stock, from time to time, on the New

(*Continued on page* 8)

In This Issue

"Spoilers of the North," "The Big Fix," and "Two Anonymous Letters," are reviewed on page 8.

Key city grosses also are given on page 8.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES P. CUNNINGHAM

TEXAS CITY and Texas theatres are being mentioned considerably in trade headlines these days by virtue of the admirable efforts of theatremen in that state to raise funds at benefit shows to aid the victims of the explosion that recently leveled that town, scattering substantial parts of that town's two theatres.

On the day of the disaster, while doing a bit of research, we came across an old trade publication which contained what probably stands as the only other trade headline on Texas City and Texas theatres, voicing the complaints of theatremen in that area against Texas City's Crystal Theatre and its widely advertised policy of charging two and a half cents admission for a full feature program!

That headline appeared in *Moving Picture World* 30 years ago, almost to the day of the Texas City disaster.

▽

To those showmen who are worrying in anticipation of waning audiences we recommend the book, "How to Hold an Audience—Without a Rope," Josh Lee's hilarious history of a lifetime in the art of holding audiences, to which he contributes the sage observation that "a speaker should never try to make himself immortal by being eternal."

▽

Plaquemine, Louisiana, will soon have a most unique motion picture theatre combination: the Osage No. 1 and the Osage No. 2, standing side by side, under the same roof. No. 1 will show to white patrons, No. 2 colored.

▽

The Memphis Board of Censors has been on a rampage of late, banning motion pictures for a number of reasons, some of them considered fantastic by some of the films' producers. The topper, however, is at hand, in this week's banning, sight unseen, of the Republic serial, "Jesse James Rides Again"—because (according to censor board chairman Lloyd Binford), "we don't like Jesse James," and "nothing with Jesse James in the title will be passed by the board."

▽

From the columns of London's Kinematograph Weekly *comes this: "Will the lady who tore off Robert Taylor's right ear at last Thursday night's free-for-all at the Empire Theatre kindly return same to Ben Goetz, c/o Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, as he wishes to co-star it with the left ear in a British production."*

▽

Showmen who tie-in film promotionals with special calendar events will really go to town if the current Congress, concerned with vital matters of the day, enacts into law even part of the pending legislation before it to designate days of special observance, among them bills to nationalize a Grandmother's Day, a Shut-Ins Day, a Farm Day, Freedom Day, Lincoln's Gettysburg Address Day, Paul Revere Day, and even a longing by Representative Frank Sundstrom (N. J.) to have two Sundays in every week.

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, president of RKO Radio, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

NATHAN LEVINSON, sound chief at the Warner studio, and FRANK E. CAHILL, JR., director of sound for Warner Theatres, will return to New York today from Philadelphia.

•

LEONARD HIRSCH, home office assistant to RUDY BERGER, M-G-M Southern sales manager, is in Post-Graduate Hospital, here, with pneumonia.

•

CHARLES CURRAN, writer, left New York yesterday by plane for San Antonio, to join producer WILLIAM CROUCH on location.

•

DORE SCHARY, RKO Radio's executive vice-president in charge of production, is due to arrive in New York tomorrow from Hollywood.

•

JACK W. VOTION, RKO Radio's European production representative, will leave Hollywood by plane today for New York, en route to London.

•

DON DE FORE, Allied Artists star, and MRS. DE FORE, arrived in New York yesterday from Chicago for a two-week stay.

•

JAMES WILKINSON, RKO Radio's chief studio editor, is due to arrive here from the Coast on Sunday.

•

PERRY W. LIEBER, RKO studio publicity chief, has left Hollywood by train for New York.

•

CHARLES WORAM, head of the Churubusco Studio, Mexico City, left Hollywood yesterday by plane for New York.

•

MRS. SI SEADLER, wife of M-G-M's advertising manager, is back in New York from the Coast.

CURTIS MITCHELL, Paramount's director of advertising-publicity, is scheduled to leave New York for Hollywood next Wednesday.

•

ANN GRAY, assistant to RKO Radio producer WILLIAM PEREIRA, has arrived in London from New York and Hollywood to begin two months of research in England and Scotland.

•

MAXWELL HAMILTON, editor of *Motion Picture Magazine,* and BILL TREADWELL, publicity director of Fawcett Publications, are due to arrive in Hollywood from New York on Monday.

•

HARRY SCHOCHET, accountant at Paramount's New York exchange, and MRS. SCHOCHET, are parents of a new-born daughter.

•

BARNEY JOFFEE, manager of the Tower, Kansas City, Mo., has returned there from a vacation on the Coast.

•

EARL WRIGHT, former 20th-Fox salesman in New Haven, has been appointed to the United Artists sales force there.

•

LEONARD ALLEN, Paramount's Southeast publicity director, has returned to Atlanta from Hendersonville, N. C.

•

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal-International's Southern and Canadian sales manager, is on a tour of the South.

•

BEN Y. CAMMACK, RKO Radio's Dallas district manager, has been visiting in Memphis.

•

PHIL LONGDON, 20th Century-Fox's Dallas district manager, has been visiting in Memphis.

'Bobby-Soxer' and 'Mrs. Muir' to Hall

RKO Radio Pictures' "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," starring Cary Grant, Myrna Loy and Shirley Temple, has been booked for showing at Radio City Music Hall, here, during the summer, G. S. Eyssell, the theatre's president and managing director, announces. Dore Schary produced.

Eyssell also announced the booking of 20th Century-Fox's "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," starring Gene Tierney, Rex Harrison and George Sanders, to open at the Music Hall immediately following the theatre's next feature, the J. Arthur Rank-Cineguild production of "Great Expectations."

New Classics 'Package'

Release of a dual reissue "package" consisting of "Dead End" and "Barbary Coast" by Film Classics for first-run engagements has been set by Sam Wheeler, FC sales manager. The "package" also includes new accessories and trailers.

'Duel' Grosses Set a New Record in Texas

A total of $16,380 was grossed by "Duel in the Sun" in new opening-day records in Amarillo, Fort Worth and Dallas, according to the David O. Selznick office here.

In Amarillo, at the Paramount and State Theatres, the picture grossed $3,400 for three performances on Monday. Tuesday's receipts were more than $1,400. In Forth Worth, at the Worth and Hollywood Theatres, the picture grossed $4,300 for two performances on the opening day, and $3,000 for the second day. The opening day's receipts at the Melba and Majestic Theatres in Dallas were $4,280.

Discovery in Deal

Discovery Pictures Corp., Joseph E. Levine, president, with offices in New York, has acquired world rights for both 35mm. and 16mm. to Admiral Richard E. Byrd's 99-minute feature, "Discovery," based on Byrd's books, "Alone" and "Discovery."

Mack Names Farber Eastern Sales Agent

CHICAGO, May 1.—Sam P. Farber has been appointed special sales representative of Filmack Trailers' Eastern division, by Irving Mack, head of the company.

Farber has spent many years in distribution and exhibition, as well as in the trailer field.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Claudette COLBERT Fred MacMURRAY
"THE EGG AND I"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
LAWRENCE TIERNEY · CLAIRE TREVOR · WALTER SLEZAK
'BORN TO KILL'

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
FRANK SINATRA
KATHRYN GRAYSON
PETER LAWFORD
JIMMY DURANTE
in M-G-M's
'IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN'
IN PERSON
JERRY WAYNE
FRED LOWERY
with Dorothy Rae
MARIO & FLORIA

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTEN · ETHEL BARRYMORE
in "The Farmer's Daughter"
RIVOLI
An RKO Radio Picture
A DORE SCHARY Production
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.
B'way at 49th St.

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

ALAN LADD
Gail RUSSELL
William BENDIX
in "CALCUTTA"
A Paramount Picture
in Person
DUKE ELLINGTON
And His Orchestra
GOLDEN GATE QUARTETTE
COKE & POKE
and BUCK & BUBBLES
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

Cornel WILDE - Maureen O'HARA
'THE HOMESTRETCH'
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE—HAZEL SCOTT -
The BARRY'S - CARL RAVAZZA -
HENNY YOUNGMAN
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



There's no thrill like the thrill of Cornel Wilde and Maureen O'Hara in "THE HOMESTRETCH" in Technicolor!



A glorious romance
that hits all the high spots
of the world . . . set against the
breathless excitement of the
world's most famous racing classics!

CORNEL WILDE
MAUREEN O'HARA

THE HOMESTRETCH

IN TECHNICOLOR

with

Glenn Langan · Helen Walker

James Gleason · Henry Stephenson
Margaret Bannerman · Ethel Griffies · Tommy Cook

Directed by **BRUCE HUMBERSTONE**

Produced by **ROBERT BASSLER** · Original Screen Play by Wanda Tuchock

THERE'S NO COMPANY WITH SUCH GREAT TECHNICOLOR TRIUMPHS AS

BOB, SON OF BATTLE *In Technicolor* • **FOREVER AMBER** *In Technicolor* • **MOTHER WORE TIGHTS** *In Technicolor*
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW *In Technicolor* • **CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE** *In Technicolor*

20 CENTURY-FOX

PRINTED IN U. S. A.

Para. Seeks Return Of Theatre in Suit

HOLLYWOOD, May 1.—Paramount Theatres Corporation today filed a federal court suit against Partmar Corporation and Fanchon and Marco for $612,000 damages and a court order turning the Paramount Theatre in downtown Los Angeles back to the complainant, which owns the property. The suit alleges that Partmar, wholly-owned subsidiary of Fanchon and Marco, leased the theatre in 1939 under a 10-year pact which was later extended to 1952 under terms requiring its use as a "show-case" for Paramount product, but that the U.S. decision in the film anti-trust case perpetually restrains Paramount from carrying out its agreement, and therefore, in effect, terminates the Partmar lease.

The complaint says that a Paramount attempt to invoke a clause in the lease provided for return of the theatre to its possession on three-day notices, but lessee refused to surrender it.

Stars at Texas City Benefit Net $50,000

NEW ORLEANS, May 1.—Ten Army and Navy planes brought a cast of stage, screen and radio stars here for a benefit show held at the City Auditorium and the Roosevelt Hotel here to aid survivors of the Texas City disaster of two weeks ago. Over $50,000 was realized from the two shows.

Planners of both shows included: Maurice Barr, Paramount-Richards Theatres; Betram Kiern, Happy Hour Theatre; R. J. Brunet, Jr., Imperial Theatre; A. Berenson, Tower Theatre. Guest stars included Frank Sinatra, Jack Benny, Phil Harris, Eddie (Rochester) Anderson, Alice Faye, Phil Silvers, and Axel Stordahl and orchestra.

Painters, Producers Hint New Meeting

HOLLYWOOD, May 1.—Some progress toward establishing a basis for settlement of the jurisdictional strike which has been going on here between the IATSE and the Conference of Studio Unions, were made today when the meeting between representatives of major producers and Painters' local No. 644 concluded with the understanding that other meetings may follow. While differing slightly in detail, statements issued by both sides in today's talks were in agreement on their readiness to hold a subsequent session. No date has been set, however.

UN Becomes a Motion Picture Producer

To cover news events at United Nations headquarters at Lake Success, L. I., the UN has contracted with Western Electric's Electrical Research Products for a portable newsreel sound recording system, to be used with a Mitchell motion picture camera. Distribution of the film will be made periodically.

FCC "Unfreezes" Air Applications

Washington, May 1.—The Federal Communications Commission's three-month "freeze" on processing of standard broadcasting station applications ended today, with the announcement that the large backlog of complicated applications had been cleared. The "freeze" became effective on Feb. 7. Since that time 250 petitions which required detailed study have been either granted or designated for hearings.

Board Elects 29 to Ascap Membership

ASCAP's board of directors has elected the following writers and publishers to membership: In the popular music field: Writers David M. Barbour, Peggy Lee Barbour, Roy Brodsky, Ralph Burns, Larry Fotin, Ray McKinley, Jack Meakin, Avery Parrish, Pete Rugolo, Jack O. Segal, Arnold Shaw, Ray Sinatra, William Stein, Sid Tepper, Paul Tripp, Donald J. Walker, Jack Wolf. In the standard music field: Writers Frank Campbell-Watson, Marcel Grandjany, Ernest Krenek and Vincent Persichetti.

Popular music field publishers elected were: Bel-Air Music, East-West Music, Guild Music Publishers, Leslie Music, James V. Monoco, Popular Music, Players Music, Ritchie Music, and John Thomas Music Corp. The standard publisher elected was: Society for the Publication of American Music, Inc.

Legion Classifies 8 Additional Pictures

Eight additional films have been classified by the National Legion of Decency. Rated A-I are: "Banjo," RKO Radio; "Bulldog Drummond at Bay," Columbia; "The Captive Heart," Prestige—U-I; "Cynthia," M-G-M, and "It's a Joke, Son," Eagle-Lion. Placed in Class A-II are: "Dick Tracy's Dilemma," RKO Radio, and "Philo Vance Returns," Producers Releasing Corp.

Twentieth Century-Fox's "Homestretch" was placed in Class B.

Committee Will Check On Fascism at Coast

WASHINGTON, May 1.—The House Un-American Activities Committee, leaving here next week to investigate Communism in Hollywood, probably will check on Fascism, too, according to Rep. John McDowell, member of the committee and chairman of another subcommittee on Fascism.

"While we're on the Coast," the Pennsylvania Republican said, "I expect to make a short dash up to San Francisco to look into Fascist activities."

Sonnett Succeeds Berg

WASHINGTON, May 1.—Attorney-General Tom Clark has appointed assistant attorney-general John F. Sonnett to succeed Wendell Berg as head of the anti-trust division. Berg's resignation took effect today.

Warner Club Paid $132,000 in '45-46

The Warner Club, social and welfare organization of Warner employees, paid out more than $132,000 in benefits and gratuities of various kinds to members in 1945-46, according to the organization.

A total of 922 members received $85,608 because of illness, 461 were given marriage gifts totaling $23,050, 304 received birth gifts aggregating $15,200, and 119 received contributions totaling $7,540. In addition, loans totaling $13,709 were made to 102 members.

The club has a membership exceeding 12,000. Present officers are: Stuart H. Aarons, president; R. A. McGuire, Bernard Rosenzweig, Ruth Weisberg, Fred Stengl and Harry Mayer, vice-presidents; Robert Salomons, treasurer; Sam Wolowitz, assistant treasurer, and Theodore R. Kupferman, secretary.

Censorship Bill Is Killed in Missouri

ST. LOUIS, May 1.—A motion picture censorship bill for Missouri has been killed by unanimous vote of the House Education Committee at Jefferson City.

Contending that voluntary censorship is better than compulsory, representatives of the Better Films Council of Greater St. Louis and the Legion of Decency joined with theatre interests in opposing the bill.

No action was taken at committee hearings on legislation to require licensed firemen in attendance at theatres and places of amusement. Theatre operators testified their service help was trained in fire drills and fire prevention and are competent to handle fire hazards.

Field Conferences on E-L's 'Performance'

Arthur Jeffrey, Eagle-Lion exploitation manager, and Hal Danson, advertising manager, left here yesterday to join E-L director of advertising-publicity Max E. Youngstein in conferences with field exploitation representatives Milt Overman in St. Louis and Dick Owen and Ad Addison in Dallas, on the forthcoming premiere of "Repeat Performance" in Zanesville, O., on May 22.

Following the meetings, Jeffrey and Danson will proceed to Hollywood with Youngstein for further meetings with studio publicity director Sam Israel on final plans for the premiere.

Allied, Mono. Meet Advanced on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, May 1.—Allied Artists' and Monogram's West Coast sales meeting has been advanced from May 13 to this Saturday, May 3. Steve Broidy, president of both companies, will preside over the meeting, which will discuss campaigns for "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," "The Gangster," "Black Gold," "The Hunted" and "Tragic Symphony."

A cocktail party for delegates will be given tonight by Howard Stubbins and Mel Hulling, Coast franchise holders.

Albany Salesmen to Weigh Unionization

Albany, N. Y., May 1.—A meeting to discuss organization of a film salesmen's union will be held here Saturday. An organizer from Milwaukee will speak. There has been talk of organizing salesmen in Albany for the last four years, but this is the first concrete step taken. All other exchange employees are unionized here.

Plan New Theatres For French Films

The French Cinema National Center, official state agency for the industry, in that country has outlined a plan to increase theatre attendance in building new theatres and modernizing existing ones, according to Maurice Bessy, general manager of Consortium de Press Cinematographique, Paris, and Quigley Publications' representative in that city.

Bessy, who stopped here briefly before departing for the Coast, added that the plan also contemplates expansion of an exportation program and the reduction of production costs by better organization of production work. He plans also to visit Argentine and Mexican studios after a tour of Hollywood.

Claim Largest Sign For 'Carnegie Hall'

A 170-by-40-foot electric sign, which United Artists claims is the largest in Broadway's history, was flashed on for the first time last night over the marquee of the Winter Garden Theatre to advertise "Carnegie Hall," which will open there and at the Park Avenue Theatre simultaneously today.

The sign, constructed by Artcraft-Strauss, runs almost the length of a city block. It contains 20,000 bulbs with 20,000,000 candle power and 2,000 feet of neon tubing. A benefit preview was held last night at both houses.

Color Video Shown To Film Executives

PHILADELPHIA, May 1.—A special demonstration for film industry executives was held here today following the first public demonstration yesterday of RCA's all-electronic color television system. Many officials from New York film company home offices were present.

Projected on a 7½-by-10-foot theatre screen at Franklin Institute, the new television development, it was explained, is still in the laboratory stage.

435 Advance Dates On WB's 'Cheyenne'

Warner Brothers claims an all-time record in advance bookings of a Warner picture has been established on "Cheyenne," which already has 435 playdates set although it does not go into general release until June 14.

Approximately 150 of the dates are part of a Rocky Mountain preview which will follow the May 22 world premiere in three Cheyenne theatres.

TOMORROW

is the third anniversary of a memorable industry event—the May 3rd, 1944 world premiere of a picture that made both entertainment and boxoffice history —a picture that endeared not only this movie, but "the movies", to millions who seldom see a screen show—the picture called "Going My Way"! . . . . .

TODAY

the picture industry is once more agog with news of another delightfully humorous, human and tender comedy with the same great stars, reunited for the first time in a story by the co-author of their first

immortal hit. By wire, by letter, by word of mouth and on the printed page, the thousands of industry representatives who crowded last Friday's trade-shows of "Welcome Stranger", in one united voice are saying . . . . . .

'GOING-MY-WAY' DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN!

BECAUSE BING AND BARRY ARE BACK AGAIN





Paramount
Does It Again!

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

SAN FRANCISCO

Business generally is slow. Still out forward, however, in its seventh week, is "The Best Years of Our Lives." Estimated receipts for the week ending May 2:

RAMROD (UA) and SHOOT TO KILL (Screen Guild)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $14,000)
SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M and THE GUILTY (Mono.)—FOX (4,651) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $32,000)
BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00). With vaudeville. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $32,000)
MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA) and BLONDIE'S BIG MOMENT (Col.)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—UNITED NATIONS (1,129) (Advanced prices: $1.25-$1.50) 7th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average at regular prices of 60c-85c: $6,000)
MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA) and BLONDIE'S BIG MOMENT (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,008) (55c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000)
PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI (UA)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c). Gross: $11,300. (Average: $14,000)
CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox)—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 5 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $27,000)
BLAZE OF NOON (Para.) and LADIES MAN (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 5 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $23,000)
CALCUTTA (Para.)—ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $23,000)
KIT CARSON (PRC reissue) and LAST OF THE MOHICANS (PRC reissue)—STATE (2,135) (60c-85c) 1st week, on a moveover. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $13,000)

OMAHA

Theatre business was like this week's Omaha weather—mixed. Estimated receipts for the week ended May 1-2:

PURSUED (WB) and BORN TO SPEED (PRC)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 8 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $8,500)
ABIE'S IRISH ROSE (UA) and THE DEVIL ON WHEELS (PRC)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,300)
THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c). Gross: $11,400. (Average: $10,600)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,200) (Advanced prices: 75c-$1.20) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average at regular prices: $6,600)

KANSAS CITY

Fair-and-mild weather is booming business at baseball parks but is hurting theatre business somewhat. "The Egg and I," which has been doing record-breaking business, will bow out of the Uptown, Esquire and Fairway after a fourth week. "Best Years" will go on to a fifth week at the Tower, and "Suddenly It's Spring" will hold over at the Newman. "Sea of Grass" is demonstrating strong pulling power at the Midland. Estimated receipts for the week ended April 29-May 1:

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 4th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,000)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 4th week. Gross: $1,750. (Average: $1,750)
THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $15,000)
SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 1st week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,000)
RAMROD (UA) and VACATION DAYS (Mono.)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—TOWER (2,100) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.50) 4th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average at 45c-65c: $9,000)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 4th week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000)

Reviews

"Spoilers of the North"

(Republic)

A SERVICEABLE story about an avaricious, power-hungry fishery tycoon, embellished with an interesting examination of the Alaskan salmon fishing industry, has been provided with a competent cast and accorded a workmanlike job of direction to make "Spoilers of the North" one of those reliable pieces of merchandise that are certain to perform well at the box-office. Paul Kelly, playing the tycoon, heads the cast, which also includes Adrian Booth, Evelyn Ankers, James A. Millican, Roy Barcroft, Louis Jean Heydt, and others. Richard Sale directed, from an original by Milton M. Raison; Donald H. Brown was associate producer.

Kelly, owner of a fishing and canning business, resorts to almost every unscrupulous method, short of murder, to reap large profits at his plant. He double-crosses his half-breed girl-friend and also his blonde sweetheart from the States, bribes and cajoles the Indians, violates Government fishing regulations, feigns illness to prevent his upright younger brother from quitting the business, and makes himself vulnerable to revenge from every quarter—all in order to fill more orders for canned salmon than his plant can normally accommodate. He gets away with his machinations up to the point where his half-breed girl-friend (Miss Booth appears somewhat too well groomed to make her role entirely convincing) kills him when she learns he has jilted her for Miss Ankers, who, meanwhile, had discovered that her heart really belongs to the honest brother, Millican.

Running time, 66 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 24. CHARLES L. FRANKE

"The Big Fix"

(Producers Releasing Corp.)

PRC has a timely, exploitable picturization of the basketball "fixing" racket which in recent weeks has been brought to the fore in the press and has aroused in good sportsmen much indignation against gamblers whose bribings bring discredit on games of sport. The screenplay, by George Bricker and Aubrey Wisberg, based on an original by Sonia Chernus and George Ross, is essentially a romantic treatment of the subject, but effective notwithstanding. During the proceedings, sportswriter Grantland Rice makes a brief appearance to speak a few words against the racketeers. The finished product is unpretentious but pleasing entertainment.

Executive producer Ben Stoloff and associate producer Marvin D. Stahl assembled a group of personable young performers to represent the champions of good sportsmanship, and another group to portray with adequate menace the racketeering element. James Brown plays a college basketball star whose sister has become involved with sports racketeers. She and the gamblers devise means of pressuring Brown into "throwing" games to protect their bets. The "brains" behind the racket is Regis Toomey, who, as a police detective, "cooperates" with Brown in an attempt to expose the gang. Ultimately, of course, the racketeers are brought to justice, but not until after Brown's sister is killed for having inadvertently double-crossed Toomey and his crew. Noreen Nash shares love interest with Brown; others in the cast include: Shelia Ryan, Tom Noonan, John Shelton, Charles McGraw, Charles Mitchell and John Morgan. James Flood directed.

Running time, 63 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, April 19. C. L. F.

"Two Anonymous Letters"

(Lux Films-Film Rights International)

WITH touches reminiscent of "Open City," the Italians have produced another story of partisan resistance in "Two Anonymous Letters." While catching the flavor of the partisans' battles, it does not reach the heights attained by "Open City."

Andrea Checchi, the hero, returns to Rome to discover that his sweetheart, Clara Calamai, has had an affair with Otello Toso, who works in the printshop where Clara and Andrea are employed. Armando Martelli, owner of the shop, fights the Germans as a partisan, following the Nazi occupation. While Andrea joins Armando in publication of underground leaflets, Otello takes over the printshop and betrays the partisans.

Clara, who lives with Otello, is horrified when she learns of Otello's betrayal to the Gestapo of Armando's son and his plans to expose Andrea. In the best scene, she brands Otello an informer and kills him. As the story ends, the lovers are reconciled after the Allies enter Rome. Mario Camerini directed and Ivo Perilli wrote the story. English titles were written by Herman G. Weinberg.

Running time, 90 minutes. Adult audience clasification. Release date, May 17. DAVID A. GORDON

310 Color Prints for 'Duel in the Sun'

HOLLYWOOD, May 1.—Technicolor Laboratories reveal here that the largest number of Technicolor prints ever made for a motion picture have been produced by David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun," with 310 prints issued to date.

In addition to the United States, prints have been shipped to the Philippines and other Pacific islands.

Court Record

(*Continued from page* 1)

New York Federal Court who, in turn, affixed his signature and prepared to send them to the U. S. Supreme Court at Washington for immediate docketing.

The high court's acceptance of jurisdiction, the next step in the legal process, is regarded as a certainty since the suit against the distributors involves interpretation of the Sherman anti-trust law, a Federal statute.

The New York court set May 10 as the deadline for the docketing and this was subsequently extended by Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed to May 20. The latter date was the subject of some dispute among attorneys, some of whom figured it to be a typographical error in Reed's order, and work on the papers was speeded.

The entire New York court's records, including testimony, pleadings, answers and complaints in addition to the original exhibits entered in the case—476 of them by the Government and 150 by the distributors—are being sent to Washington. The clerk of the Supreme Court will have printed that part of the record and those exhibits designated by all parties to the suit. A sharing of printing costs by the distributors is understood to have been agreed upon.

Harold Lasser represented the Department of Justice in preparation of the documents. Representing the companies in the joint project were Joseph Macchia of the John W. Davis (Loew's) staff, and James Shields of Simpson, Thacher and Bartlett (Paramount).

New briefs elaborating on motions to appeal will be submitted to the court by all parties shortly before its October term, and during which the case is expected to be argued. This would probably be some time next winter.

Drive-Ins

(*Continued from page* 1)

atres.. The statement explained this is because of increased supplies of cement, concrete, and concrete block.

Single motion picture sets, 10,000 square feet or smaller, may now cost up to $15,000 without Government approval being required. Until today, this set size was exempt only if it cost less than $1,000.

Officials here have also indicated that district offices are being instructed to relax their interpretation of what constitutes "hardship cases" in examining construction applications made on this basis.

Some slight relaxation was announced in the standards for permitting authorization of partial construction jobs where only a negligible amount of scare building materials is required.

WB to Buy Shares

(*Continued from page* 1)

York Stock Exchange. The company says it has no present intention of disposing of such shares, but intends to hold them in its treasury for general corporate purposes. No determination has been made as to the number of shares, if any, which the company will acquire under this policy.

The company has prepaid a $1,591,000 installment due May 1, 1948, on its two per cent term bank loan.

The quarterly dividend of 37½ cents per share has been declared on WB's common stock, payable on July 3, to stockholders of record on June 6.

"But operator, this is very special! I've got to get the news to Paramount"...



"Our first five days of

BLAZE OF NOON

here in Little Rock pulled bigger business than 'Martha Ivers', 'My Favorite Brunette' and 'O. S. S.'!"

And That's Just the First General Release Engagement of Paramount's 6-Star Best-Seller

starring

ANNE BAXTER · WM. HOLDEN · SONNY TUFTS · WM. BENDIX

Produced by ROBERT FELLOWS

STERLING HAYDEN · HOWARD DA SILVA

Directed by JOHN FARROW

with JOHNNY SANDS • JEAN WALLACE • EDITH KING • Screenplay by Frank Wead and Arthur Sheekman

Chaplin Settles With Bercovici

Konrad Bercovici's $5,000,000 suit against Charles Chaplin for alleged breach of contract in connection with "The Great Dictator" has been settled out of court following Chaplin's testimony on Wednesday, attorneys for Bercovici and Chaplin announced yesterday. The settlement price, according to Louis Nizer, Bercovici's attorney, was $100,000, plus court costs. However, Louis Frohlich, attorney for Chaplin, said that the settlement figure was $90,000, plus $5,000 for court costs. But the setttlement terms announced late yesterday by Federal Judge Harold P. Burke coincided with those revealed by Frohlich.

Bercovici had charged in his suit in New York Federal Court that he outlined the entire story of "The Great Dictator" to Chaplin. Chaplin testified that he had never accepted any story ideas from Bercovici.

Nizer said that Chaplin made the settlement offer in Judge Harold Burke's chambers while awaiting cross-examination. Frohlich said that Bercovici originally offered to withdraw his suit on the basis of a $500,000 settlement. Subsequently, the writer reduced his figure to $125,000, according to Frohlich, and negotiations produced the final settlement figure.

Frohlich also said that as part of the settlement, Bercovici gave Chaplin two scenarios, one based on a gypsy theme and the other on the Haymarket riots in Chicago in 1886.

John Muller, 53

MEMPHIS, May 1.—John Muller, projectionist for 18 years at Loew's Palace here, died yesterday after a three-week illness. He was 53. Surviving are the widow, two children and a niece.

Presidential Awards

(*Continued from page* 1)

ferred, the Navy is sincerely grateful."

Sullivan spoke of the current Naval Reserve program, saying, "In this program, as always, the Navy finds the motion picture industry doing its full share to inform the public in support of the nation's role in world affairs."

Richards replied as spokesman for the three recipients. He pledged the support of the screen in post-war cooperation with the Navy. "We are honored not only for ourselves, but for the entire motion picture industry, and especially for the 16,000 theatres taking part in this program," he said.

Richards, president of Paramount-Richards Theatres, Inc., New Orleans, was cited for his services in the organization of the War Activities Committee; Wilby, president of the Wilby-Kincey Service Corp., Atlanta, for his work as chairman of the program committee of the WAC, and Fabian, president of Fabian Theatres, New York, for his activity as chairman of the theatres division of the WAC.

As a result of the War Activities program hundreds of Government-sponsored films were shown weekly in theatres throughout the country. Topics covered in the films were salvage, recruiting, rationing, preparedness, war bond sales and other wartime subjects.

Johnston Bids

(*Continued from page* 1)

he continued, "if they are short of dollars, and they can't get dollars unless we buy from them." He urged Congress not to interfere in the current trade negotiations at Geneva.

Johnston pointed out that it is foreign trade which permits the motion picture industry to maintain its high quality of product and high levels of employment, wages, and salaries.

But, he told the committee, "the rising volume of foreign pictures shown in this country is evidence that our industry believes in imports as well as exports, believes that the dollar must flow out as well as flow in. Our industry is confronted by barriers in many foreign countries but it asks no barriers against the importation of foreign films into the U.S. It will take its chances on competition for the world market. All it asks is that the world market be kept open so that people everywhere will have a chance to see the best pictures no matter who makes them."

Asked by Rep. Reed of New York what type of barriers were being encountered abroad, Johnston cited the case of Britain, where 22½ per cent of all playing time must be devoted to British films, and where there is now talk of increasing this to 45 or 50 per cent.

Johnston said that an expanding foreign trade is one means of guarding against a serious depression at home and that without it, "our entire foreign economic policy of financial aid could easily degenerate into an international dole." Moreover, he said, our program for halting the spread of communism will "fall flat on its face" if the trade program is scuttled.

We are engaged in efforts to promote world recovery, Johnston said, because "we believe it is in our self-interest to do so." He mentioned as examples our participation in the Geneva conference, the World Bank and Fund, and direct loans.

Asked what the MPA would trade off at Geneva in return for film concessions, Johnston said he was unable to give specific examples, but that he did think "there are things in America on which we can lower tariffs." He told the committee that he thought it would be a serious mistake for Congress to interfere in the Geneva negotiations at this time.

"The target of our whole foreign policy," he concluded, "is world economic recovery and rehabilitation—the best bulwark against another war. For Congress to approve productive loans and then to take any action which would put a 'strait-jacket' on freer foreign trade would, in my judgment, be the supreme contradiction of our times," he concluded.

Johnston to Hot Springs

WASHINGTON, May 1.—Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston will leave here tomorrow to attend a three-day conference of the Department of Commerce Business Advisory Council in Hot Springs, Ark.

Memorial for Ettling

SAN FRANCISCO, May 1.—A memorial to Harry Ettling, formerly manager of the RKO Golden Gate Theatre since that theatre's erection, is being planned by a committee of newspaper columnists, theatre executives and theatrical agents.

Boston AAA Award In Anchor Case

Product of five distributors has been made available to the Central and City Theatres, Biddeford, Me., within 44 days after availability to the Strand, Empire, State and Civic Theatres in Portland, Me., and has been made available to the Anchor, Kennebunk, Me., within 63 days after availability to the Portland houses, under terms of an award made by the Boston motion picture arbitration tribunal of the American Arbitration Association.

Anchor Theatre Corp. had brought the clearance complaint, and Joseph B. Wolbarsht, arbitrator, made the award on the following basis: 30 days allowable delay for a play-off in Portland, seven days for a run and seven days clearance over Biddeford. He allowed for a 15-day delay in play-off at Biddeford, three days to a run, and one day's clearance over Kennebunk.

20th Pays Million

(*Continued from page* 1)

Picture Association; $271,500 to the law firm of Dwight, Harris, Koegel and Caskey, this including $112,500 for special services on the industry anti-trust litigation; $62,239 in dues to the American Arbitration Association; and $66,820 to the Copyright Protection Bureau for dues and legal fees.

The entire 20th-Fox board of 14 directors are candidates for reelection at the annual meeting.

The board members and their respective remuneration in 1946 are: Spyros P. Skouras, president, $255,922; Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production, $260,000; Murray Silverstone, vice-president, $97,583; Thomas J. Connors, vice-president in charge of sales, $110,625; Donald A. Henderson, treasurer, $60,500; William C. Michel, executive vice-president, $19,075; Wilfred J. Eadie, comptroller and assistant treasurer, $45,325; L. Sherman Adams, Massachusetts Investors Trust, $6,600; Robert L. Clarkson, American Express, $6,700; John R. Dillon, investment banker and broker, $11,900; Daniel O. Hastings, attorney, $6,100; Robert Lehman, partner of Lehman Brothers, $5,700; William P. Phillips, a legal and financial adviser, $6,900, and Seton Porter, president of National Distillers, $6,200.

Para. Chiefs To Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

dent of Paramount Theatres Service; Edward L. Hyman, vice-president, and Leon D. Netter, vice-president, all of Paramount Theatre Service, and Robert Weitman, managing director of the Paramount Theatre here.

President Barney Balaban will leave here Tuesday by plane. Already en route to the Coast from the home office are Montague Gowthorpe, treasurer, and Hal Pereira and Max Fellerman, theatre executives.

Theatre executives in the field to attend the sessions include Earl J. Hudson, Detroit; James Harrison and Fred Storey, Atlanta; Frank Walker, Scranton; Martin Mullin and Sam Pinanski, Boston; E. V. Richards, N. Carter and G. Dureau, New Orleans; H. F. Kincey and Roy Smart, Charlotte, and others.

Rodgers on Decree

(*Continued from page* 1)

Yearling," which he said would be shown in every branch center this month. He also discussed plans for "Cynthia," which is to be trade-shown in all exchanges on May 12-13.

On Saturday, Rodgers plans to reveal details on a number of pictures to be released in the next three months as well as talk about other pictures he saw while on the Coast recently and which are to be released before the end of the year. Among pictures to be discussed are "Fiesta," "The Arnelo Affair," "Living in a Big Way," "Undercover Maisie," "Tenth Avenue Angel," "Song of Love," "Summer Holiday," "Green Dolphin Street," "Merton of the Movies," "The Hucksters," "Song of the Thin Man," and "Romance of Rosy Ridge."

George Murphy, who appears in "Cynthia, yesterday talked to the conference delegates. He left for the Coast last night after screening for the assemblage an untitled picture based on a new idea of his.

This morning's session will be given over to talks by Howard Dietz, vice-president and director of advertising-publicity and exploitation, and Silas F. Seadler, advertising manager. William R. Ferguson, exploitation head, and Herbert Crooker, publicity manager, will also address the delegates.

In the afternoon, H. M. Richey, assistant to Rodgers and head of exhibitor and public relations, will have as his topic "Merchandising and Customer Relations." Max Weinberg of the short subject publicity department will talk, too, while Jay Eisenberg, liaison between sales and legal departments, will draw attention to the "Retirement Plan, Group Insurance and the Welfare Fund."

In the evening, the entire group will attend the Barnum and Bailey circus at Madison Square Garden. Last evening, the men attended a home office screening of "The Birds and the Bees," produced by Joseph Pasternak and directed by Fred Wilcox. Wilcox, in town from the Coast on vacation, attended the screening and was introduced to the gathering.

Tomorrow will feature talks by Charles O'Brien of the personnel division; Alan F. Cummings on "Exchange Operations"; Charles K. Stern, Loew's assistant treasurer; Jay A. Gove, on "Theatre Business Reports," and M. L. Simons on "The Distributor," which he edits in addition to his activities as assistant to Richey.

On Sunday there will be a brief session in the afternoon followed by a screening of "Fiesta." In the evening there will be a banquet.

UJA Luncheon

(*Continued from page* 1)

on Wednesday, May 7, at the Hotel Astor, it was announced here yesterday by Barney Balaban, national chairman. About 50 are expected to attend and to hear guest speaker Edward N. N. Warburg, co-chairman with Balaban for the UJA in Greater New York.

Among the guests expected are: Spyros P. Skouras, Matthew Fox, Gilbert Miller, Arthur Hopkins, Herman Shumlin, Dorothy Fields, Irving Caesar, William Klein, Saul E. Rogers, Walter Vincent, Alfred de Liagre, Jr., Alex Yokel, Bernard Hart, Mannie Sachs, Dave Ferguson, Al Schacht, Lou Novins and Sam Shain.

ODD MAN OUT IS IN!

"Odd Man Out" is one of the biggest hits in the history of Loew's Criterion New York

JAMES MASON in "ODD MAN OUT"
—THE YEAR'S GREATEST HIT—IS AT
LOEW'S CRITERION
OPEN TO 4 A. M. B'way & 45th St.

"Ranks with the greatest of all motion picture achievements! Something to rouse an audience into cheers!"
—*Cook*, World-Telegram

"The best film we've seen so far this year... continuous suspense... flawless performances!"
—*Quinn*, Mirror

"Thrilling and highly suspenseful... will be found on all the lists of best films of the year!"
—*Cameron*, News

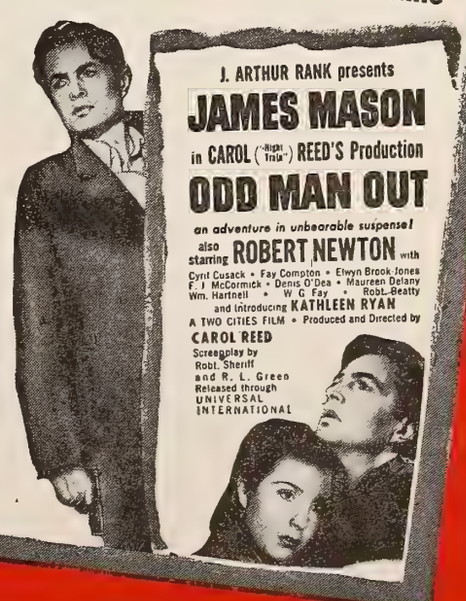
"Terrifically tense and dramatic... a picture to see and then go home and talk about!"
—*Crowther*, Times

"Extraordinarily exciting! James Mason is altogether splendid ...Very much worth seeing!"
—*Barnes*, Tribune

"One of those masterpieces which will be hailed for years to come! Comparable to the greatest!"
—*Winsten*, Post

"Powerful, superb drama! Will stay with you for a long, long time!"
—*Pelswick*, Journal-American

"Exciting! Crowded with fascinating characters, tense scenes... an unusual film."
—*Creelman*, Sun



Universal International

New Theatres

(*Continued from page 1*)

now being built and other hundreds are in the planning stage. In most cases where blueprinting has been completed, construction work awaits only the "green light" from the Civilian Production Administration.

Of late the CPA has been approving theatre construction applications with encouraging regularity. Ordinarily, the building of new houses is begun immediately upon receipt of such approval. In some parts of the country, however, the shortage of building materials persists, and it is in those sections principally where CPA approval is awaited.

However, it is possible that the beginning of the end of theatre building curbs is embodied in the recent approval by the House Banking and Currency Committee of a bill which would end all commercial construction bans. But there were "strings" attached to the approval. Included is an amendment giving the Government power to require a permit for construction of buildings for amusement purposes if a government agency certifies that there is, or there is likely to be, a local building material shortage.

A partial listing of current new theatre planning, building, or openings in various sections of the U. S. and Canada follows:

ALABAMA—Ellis Rose has slated a new theatre for Oakman, pending CPA approval; E. C. White has opened a new 320-seat house in Addison; J. T. Titmore has opened his new theatre in Moundville; the Joy has been opened by J. C. Carson in Gurley; Frank Nail is constructing a new house in Goodwater, with completion expected by June 1; in Center, G. A. Johnson has opened a new 800-seat house.

ARKANSAS — The Dixie, in Mountain Home, which burned to the ground last February, is being rebuilt by the Derrick and McLinden circuit.

CALIFORNIA — Fox West Coast has opened its new theatre in Alisal; Bert Henson Enterprises of Modesto is planning construction of a $75,000, 600-seat theatre in Oakdale; in Holtville, John A. DePaoli has purchased land adjacent to his present house there for the building of another; Gerald Hardy, president of Hardy Theatres, has been granted a permit to construct a neighborhood house in a formerly restricted residential area of Fresno; Golden State Theatres has opened a theatre at Lorenzo; a 420-seat quonset-type theatre is planned by J. D. Chaffin at Palmdale; CPA has granted a permit for building of a theatre at Soledat by A. Elanco and Ralph Martin and building will get underway immediately; a new $90,000, 700-seat house in Marysville has been built by Frank Maun; the Willows Theatre Co. will build a new $13,000 theatre at Willow; a new 700-seat house is slated for Sierra by H. Bradley Fish; a new $25,000,000 project, to include a 1,000-seat theatre, is slated for San Francisco; in Boulder Creek, W. C. Dolan has opened his new 400-seat quonset-type theatre; James Howell, president of the newly-formed Starlite Theatre Corp., announces construction will begin shortly on a new out-door theatre in Belmont; Westside Theatres has opened its new Park at Menlo Park; a new 1,100-seat house, to cost $250,000, will be built at Gilroy by General Theatrical Enterprises.

COLORADO — Civic Theatres is blueprinting a $300,000, 1,000-seat theatre for Lakewood; as soon as materials are available, Dave Cockrill will build a new 2,000-seat in Denver; Gibralter Enterprises announces plans for a 600-seat, $85,000 theatre in Loveland.

CONNECTICUT—The Hartford CPA office has approved building of a $22,500 theatre by Beach Amusement Co. in New Haven.

FLORIDA—E. D. Chessman expects to open his new McClenny theatre on Thursday, May 1; Nat Williams is building a new $200,000 house in Quincy; in Mulberry, R. T. Arnold has opened his new $75,000, 500-seat house; a new Negro theatre, to cost $11,000, is planned by the Stein and Floyd Circuit.

GEORGIA—Carl T. Long is prepared to get underway with construction of a 500-seat house in Colguitt; in Cleveland, Jack White and Herbert Glover have opened a new house; W. T. Murray has opened his new Central in Atlanta; J. H. Thompson is about to start his new Princess in Hawkinsville to replace the one recently destroyed by fire; Baily Theatres' new Negro house in Atlanta is expected to be completed by mid-summer.

ILLINOIS—Essaness has completed plans for the erection of a 2,000-seat house on Chicago's South Shore Drive.

INDIANA—V. J. McKelski has announced plans for a new theatre in West Baden, with construction to begin immediately; construction has been started on the 600-seat New Scott by Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Walsh at Scottsburgh.

KENTUCKY—Dudley Williston has completed plans for the immediate construction of a new 1,400-seat theatre in Louisville; Andy Anderson has begun building of a new house in Hodgenville; contract for the construction of a new 440-seat house in Campton has been awarded by J. F. Carnahan, with an opening slated for mid-July; the Bailey, Crab Orchard, owned jointly by George Bailey and Hamp L. Howard, was recently opened; the Louisville Planning and Zoning Commission has approved construction of a new drive-in there by Louis A. Arru of Akamusements, Inc.; Charles Bowles' new Ritz at Beattyville has been opened; McAdoo Burington is planning a new theatre in a suburb of Owensboro; Aug. 1 has been set for the opening of M. C. Hughes' new theatre in McKee; W. M. Thomas is building what will be East Bernstadt's only theatre; in Lebanon Junction a new theatre is now being built by Edwin St. Clair and Otto Marcum.

LOUISIANA—Thursday has been set for the opening of Pittman Brothers' new $350,000 first-run house in Baton Rouge.

MINNESOTA—Plans have been drawn for a 1,000-seat house at Whitefish Bay and a new 400-seat theatre at Clinton; K. L. Nappen has announced plans to build a new 500-seat, $40,000 theatre at Arlington.

MISSISSIPPI—New theatres were opened recently at Walnut Grove, Florence, Raymond, Roxy and Pachuta; Applebaum-Simms' new 775-seat Center has opened in Greenville.

MISSOURI — Tom Edwards expects to soon open his second theatre in Eldon; a new building for Concordia's Lyric will be constructed by owner Paul Oetting.

NEBRASKA—Fay Gardner will build another theatre in Imperial, to cost an estimated $30,000; Henry Leriger has received approval from the CPA to build a new theatre in Lyons; G. V. Fleming has opened a new 250-seat house in Lynch; Earl Nelson has purchased a building in Arlington and will convert it into a 150-seat theatre.

NEVADA—T. and D. Jr. Enterprises' new Hi-Way Theatre was opened recently in Sparks.

NEW JERSEY—Harry Brandt has purchased a site at Union for construction of a 1,200-seat theatre.

NEW YORK—Century Theatres' new 600-seat Alan, which has been under construction for a year, will be opened in New Hyde Park, L. I., next month.

NORTH CAROLINA — W. G. Fussell's new theatre at Bladenboro is expected to be completed in August; Richard Rousseau has opened a new Negro theatre at Wilkesboro; H. B. Meiselman will shortly construct a new 1,000-seat, $75,000 theatre in Charlotte; H. and S. Theatres has scheduled a new theatre for Mount Pleasant; Worth Harris has renewed his application, recently denied by the CPA, for construction of a theatre-shopping center in Charlotte's Wesley Heights section; H. B. Meiselman has opened his new 650-seat house in downtown Charlotte; work has begun on the construction of L. C. McCommons' new Negro theatre in Concord; Parkway Amusements has announced plans for a new house in Spruce Pine; the New Rocky has opened at Lowell.

OHIO—Maderia Theatre Co. has received CPA approval for the building of a 600-seat house at Madeta; the Hippodrome in Cincinnati, dismantled 15 years ago, will be refurnished into a 1,000-seat Negro house by Jack Frisch and Saul M. Greenberg; J. Henry Davidson recently opened his newly completed Mound Theatre in Peebles; Academy Circuit's new 1,000-seat New University has been opened in Columbus; construction will commence shortly on a new 1,400-seat, $200,000 Galion Theatres' house in Columbus.

RHODE ISLAND — Samuel Bomes has been granted a permit for erection of a 900-seat theatre in East Providence; the Currie and Harmon circuit has purchased land in Cranston for construction of a new house.

SOUTH CAROLINA—Jesse Cox of Atlanta will soon open a new 500-seat Negro theatre at Rock Hill.

SOUTH DAKOTA—Perry Crosier, Minneapolis theatre architect, has completed blueprinting of Benfield-Schenecker's new 650-seat house at Webster.

TENNESSEE—Cresent Amusement has announced plans to build early next year a $1,000,000 theatre and office building in Nashville; the new W. C. Handy theatre, a 1,100-seater, will open in Memphis on May 11; Gene McIlwain will begin construction soon on a new theatre in LaFayette; the new Harlem, owned by Harold Midyett, has opened in Union City.

VERMONT—Graphic Theatres Circuit has slated a new 1,200-seat theatre for Newport.

WASHINGTON — William Forman recently opened his new 750-car Auto-View Theatre on the Seattle-Tacoma highway; plans have been completed by Midsma Amusement Corp. for construction of 600-car drive-in near Walla Walla; another new Walla Walla drive-in, accommodating 430-cars, will be opened May 1 by Fred Hair, C. C. Ransom and Fred Bower; the new Des Moines Theatre, in Des Moines, Wash., is in operation.

WEST VIRGINIA — The new Tipton theatre has been opened in Huntington.

WISCONSIN—The George Miner circuit plans construction of a third house for Chippewa Falls, with building to start this spring.

CANADA — Famous Players Canadian Corp. has started erection of a new theatre at Windsor, Ont.; 20th Century Theatres has announced plans for construction of a theatre to seat 350, at Ottawa.

WANTED

STENOGRAPHER-CLERK IN THEATRE DEPARTMENT. EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY.

PHONE CIRCLE 7-3100

"Miracle on 34th Street"

(*Continued from page 1*)

unhappy about it when she learns that Santa, who shuns commercialism, has the rather unorthodox custom of recommending that the kiddies try Gimbel's if his store does not have the desired object.

The idea, considered commercially shocking at first, soon reveals its enormous value for advancing the reputation of the store, with farcical complications ensuing when other stores start indulging in the same practice.

There is a good deal of on-the-spot realism in the camerawork, as well as the dialogue, that will evoke recognition in all who have seen New York City. Along with the Santa theme, there is blended into the story a romantic angle involving Miss O'Hara and Payne. It seems that Miss O'Hara in her "modern" desire to rid her precocious little daughter, Natalie Wood, from all fantasies, tells her there is no Santa Claus and, also, that fairy tales are false. Payne has conventional ideas about the matter and gets to work on both ladies.

The screenplay, written by George Seaton, who also directed, pokes gay satire at pseudo psycho-analysis. Under the store psychologist's examination, Santa's desire to spread kindness is interpreted as a "delusion for good," but with maniacal tendencies to boot. A few more developments in plot result in Santa becoming a candidate for a mental institution.

At a court hearing Payne, an attorney, defends Santa against the "realistic" offensives of the district attorney. The Solomonic decision which the judge must render, is not an easy one. If there is no Santa, millions of kids must face cold disenchantment, and besides, the chances of the judge's reelection grow slender.

There is a rich bounty of wholesome chuckles before the judge renders a verdict that paves the way for the restoration of little Miss Wood's faith in Santa Claus. At this point Payne realizes he would like to be Miss Wood's stepfather and whispers the words to Miss O'Hara's receptive ears. Others in the ably-performing cast are Gene Lockhart, Porter Hall and Jerome Cowan. William Perlberg produced, from a story by Valentine Davies.

Running time, 96 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, June.

MANNY HERBSTMAN

CPA Approves a Host of New Theatre Applications

WASHINGTON, May 1. — St. Louis Amusement Co. has received Civilian Production Administration authorization to construct a $200,000 theatre in Granite City, Ill., approval being based on "extreme hardship" due to eviction from existing quarters, plus a promise to use a minimum amount of critically short materials.

Three other applications were approved by the CPA on the same basis; those of Douglas M. Globe, of Wells, Nev., Otto Biller, Okarche, Okla,. and G. F. Owen, Jr., Waynesville, N. C.

Airline Theatre Co. of Bay City, Tex., was authorized to complete a theatre, while drive-in theatres were approved for Robert L. Lippert, San Francisco, and R. Lewis Barton, Oklahoma City. These projects were approved as having no substantial impact on the housing program.

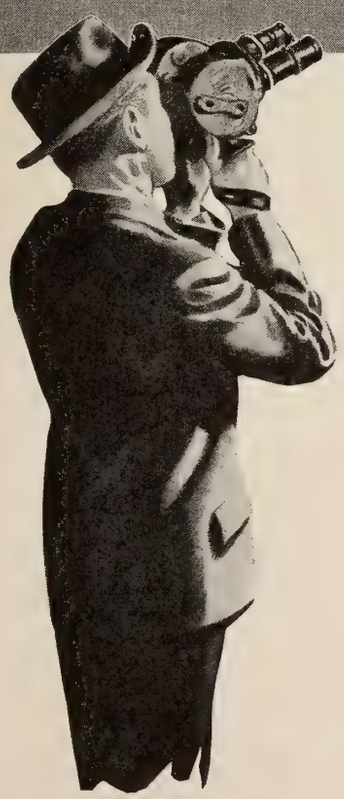
Allender O. Scott and Jesse B. Crew, Jr., Talequah, Okla., received approval for a $20,000 theatre as an "essential community facility."

Five theatre projects were approved on the basis of veterans' ownership. Calvin H. Stevens, Roanoke, Va., and Skyline Enterprises, Inc., Wooster, Ohio, got approvals for drive-in theatres, while Ray H. Church, Delta, Utah, and Carl M. Persinger, Huntington, W. Va., got a go-ahead for regular theatres. Excelsior Amusement Co., San Francisco, received permission to reconvert a former theatre for use as a theatre again.

Also approved was the application of E. J. Stephens, Jr., to build a $35,000 theatre in New Albany, Miss.

Other approved projects include: Leo Pallay, Portland, Ore., repairs to a theatre damaged by fire, $20,000; Russell A. Wright, Farmersville, Cal., a theatre, $18,000; Atlanta Drive-in-Theatre, Inc., Atlanta, screen tower for a drive-in theatre, $18,500; Robert E. Booth, Hollandale, Miss., a theatre, $7,000; Sowega Auto Theatre, Putney, Ga., outdoor theatre, $1,000; R. Wayne Holmes, Little Valley, N. Y., a theatre, $11,000; Gerald H. Little, Tuscaloosa, Ala., a theatre, $13,600, and State Drive-In-Theatre, Seekonk, Mass., a drive-in theatre screen, $10,930.





Wherever history is being made . . .

WHEN Hitler danced at Compiègne in 1940, the newsreel photographer was there . . . as he is almost always there, recording what happens with unique reality and objectivity, wherever history is being made.

Because of him, more people understand more of what goes on in the world—of the significant events in the daily life of mankind. Handling his equipment with skill and ingenuity . . . surmounting the most adverse conditions of light and weather . . . he has an important role in the creation of a better-informed public.

If he is to get the most from this role . . . to give the most to the public . . . the newsreel photographer naturally needs superior film. That's why he prefers to work with members of the large and well-known family of Eastman motion picture and sound films.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY

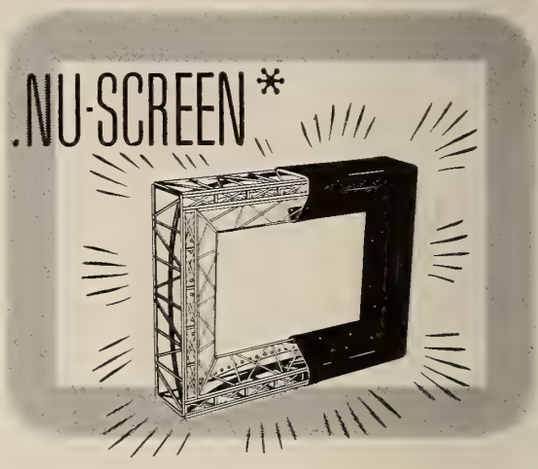
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History happened last night!

"CARNEGIE HALL" became the first Motion Picture to be premiered on . . .



We are proud to have played such an important part in the showing of a truly great picture . . . and we are grateful to United Artists for releasing it through the two New York theaters (the Winter Garden and the Park Avenue) that have installed our profit-making product.

When a screen can accomplish everything that NU-SCREEN has proven it can do, it is a sure bet to become standard equipment in all of the more important theaters in the country.

NU-SCREEN is a permanent fixture that is built to last as long as your theater. Made of seamless Fiberglas, NU-SCREEN "puts every seat in the center section."

6 Points of Profit:

- ELIMINATES DISTORTION
- ELIMINATES HOT SPOT AND GLARE
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- GIVES ILLUSION OF DEPTH
- IMPROVES SOUND
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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 87 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, MAY 5, 1947 TEN CENTS

Names . . . *in Today's News*

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, head of the M-G-M reprint and importation division, has been appointed national sales manager for short subjects in addition to his other duties, by William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president. He takes over the short subject activities handled for the past year-and-a-half by E. W. Aaron, assistant general sales manager. Zoellner will continue to make his headquarters in New York.

Butterfield Forms Coast Company for Production

HOLLYWOOD, May 4.—Allyn Butterfield, former editor of Pathe, RKO and Universal newsreels, has formed his own production company, Allyn Butterfield Productions, with headquarters here, to produce short subpects and features. The company is now in production and the first series is now in circulation in some 2,000 theatres. Entitled "Woman Speaks," it is a screen digest of women's activities and achievements.

Butterfield also has secured contracts to produce a series of documentary films from leading universities. First of this series will be produced in Lafayette, Ind., entitled "Spirit of Purdue," with the entire Purdue student body of 12,000 participating.

Bergman, Shapiro Named Cinema Lodge Officers

Maurice A. Bergman, Eastern advertising - publicity director of Universal, and Robert K. Shapiro, manager of the New York Paramount Theatre, have been elected vice-presidents of New York's Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith, completing the organization's slate of officers for 1947-48. Robert M. Weitman is president.

Pickman Named to New E-L Advertising Post Here

Jerry Pickman, publicity manager of Eagle-Lion Films since its inception last fall, has been promoted to the newly-created post of assistant director of advertising, publicity and exploitation, and will assume his new duties today, announces Max E. Youngstein, E-L director of advertising-publicity.

In announcing Pickman's new post as the final step in the company's recent expansion and integration of its promotional activities, Youngstein emphasized that the new position had been made necessary by the over-all enlarging of Eagle-Lion's plan of sales and promotion operation which

(*Continued on page* 10)

UA Meeting Is Postponed

With United Artists' annual meeting postponed from tomorrow to an undetermined date, co-owners Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin and the company's board are "hopeful" that current negotiations will lead to the appointment of a successor to Edward C. Raftery as president before the meeting is held either late this month or early in June, it was disclosed here yesterday by a key figure in the negotiations. A UA by-law setting May 6 as the date for the annual meeting is flexible, and the session has been pushed back pending the outcome of negotiations.

It was said that UA is "talking" a deal with "three or four" industry executives, all of whom are receptive to the idea of heading the company, and that terms are being taken up one by one. The company is "hopeful" that one candidate will be agreeable to all provisions of a UA proposed

(*Continued on page* 10)

U.S. Film Audiences Tripled in 20 Years

The motion picture audience in the U. S. has grown three times in proportion to the population in the past 20 years, and it remains our job to continue to make more converts to film theatres, declared Howard Dietz on Friday in addressing 115 field men of the company's sales force. It was one of the last of a week of general

(*Continued on page* 10)

N. Y. Building Code Hearing for June 6

First date to be set for public hearings on the proposed revision of the New York State building code for places of public assembly, including theatres, has been set for June 6, at the Empire State Building, here.

Additional dates for hearings in Albany, Syracuse, Rochester and Buffalo, will be set shortly.

RCA's 1st Postwar Video Transmitter

CAMDEN, May 4.—Delivery of RCA's first postwar television transmitter to Station WNBW, in Washington, D. C., was disclosed over the weekend by W. W. Watts, vice-president in charge of RCA's engineering products department. The transmitter will operate on Channel No. 4.

Television transmitters of this 5-kilowatt type are now being produced in quantity, Watts revealed, and will be shipped at the rate of several a month. The new transmitter is described as being the first one to be produced that provides for operation on all of the 12 television channels allocated to commercial metropolitan television by the Federal Communications Commission.

"Now that we are geared for quantity production of these transmitters and other elements necessary for a complete television broadcasting system, it should not be long before stations will be opening at the rate of two a month," Watts said.

Eight Companies Have Decided Sales Policies for Decree Stay-Period

Sales policies set by major companies for the period of the stay of the New York Federal Court's decree, as reported by official sources within the companies, are as follows:

Columbia: Will consider reasonable-run demands; no competitive bidding; sale of a number of films in one transaction but by single sales where an exhibitor desires a group of pictures.

M-G-M: Bidding limited to experimental situations unless legally required elsewhere; product splits to be offered to competing theatremen as a means of averting further bidding; single sales.

Paramount: Single sales upon the merits of each situation; no bidding unless ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

RKO Radio: Bidding only where already introduced; negotiations with exhibitors demanding a better run; single sales.

20th Century-Fox: Single sales; bidding to settle run demands.

United Artists: No bidding; considering plan for simultaneous runs where theatremen fail to agree on a run; single sales.

Universal-International: No bidding but negotiation of run demands; multi-film sales negotiated picture by picture.

Warners: No bidding; single sales; negotiation of run demands.

Theatre Units Are Willing to Meet ASCAP

All Are Opposed to Tax Increase, Regardless

Although unanimously opposed to an increase in the music tax rate for theatres as contemplated by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, heads of national exhibitor organizations and spokesmen for a number of regional organizations have indicated that they will accept invitations to meet with Ascap officials to discuss the subject.

In Washington, Abram F. Myers, chairman and general counsel of Allied States, said he would "be glad" to attend if Ascap wished to arrange such a meeting.

Plans to issue meeting invitations to exhibitor organization heads were

(*Continued on page* 7)

MPA's Dinner for Rank Next Monday

A private dinner honoring J. Arthur Rank will be given by the Motion Picture Association at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here next Monday evening. Rank is scheduled to arrive in New York from England on the *Queen Elizabeth* on Friday.

Original plans for a celebration to be attended by over 1,000 in the film industry here were dropped in favor of the private affair.

Ryder Asks Action On Television Use

The time has arrived for the industry to decide upon the practical use of theatre television, Loren L. Ryder, president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, asserted Friday in a trade press interview here.

Ryder hinted that important an-

(*Continued on page* 10)

In This Issue

"Hoppy's Holiday" is reviewed on page 7.

Coming Events

May 5 — Testimonial to Sidney E. Samuelson, general manager of Allied of Eastern Pennsylvania, Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia.

May 5—Motion Picture Foundation Area meeting in Omaha.

May 5-6—Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska Meeting, Omaha.

May 5-7 — India Film Conference, Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

May 5-8—Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Exhibitors, Los Angeles.

May 6-9 — Paramount executives and theatre partners meeting to discuss the New York Federal Court decision, Arrowhead Springs, Cal.

May 6—United Artists annual meeting of stockholders and directors, New York.

May 7—United Jewish Appeal, luncheon-meeting, Hotel Astor, New York.

May 9—J. Arthur Rank luncheon given by World's Sunday School Association, Hotel Commodore, New York.

May 12-16 — Screen Guild national sales conference and board and stockholders meeting, Hollywood.

GPE Examination of Scophony Thursday

General Precision Equipment Corp. has been granted an examination priority by Federal Court Justice Simon H. Rifkind in the cross-claims action filed by Arthur Levey and Scophony Corp. of America. Both GPE and Scophony had filed notices for examination of the other. Scophony's examination will follow GPE's, which is slated for Thursday.

Palfreyman, Fishing To Address PCCITO

Hollywood, May 4.—J. B. Fishing, board member of Allied States Exhibitors' Association, and Motion Picture Association representative David Palfreyman, are among the speakers who will address delegates to the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners which convenes tomorrow at the Ambassador Hotel for a four-day meeting.

The delegates will visit studios Wednesday afternoon, and a convention banquet will be held Thursday evening.

Personal Mention

PAT CASEY, producers' labor representative, is in New York from the Coast.

•

WALTER L. TITUS, vice-president and Southern division manager of Republic, is visiting in Charlotte. He will also visit in Atlanta before returning to New York.

•

MR. and MRS. L. F. HAVEN, JR., operators of the Imperial, Forrest City, Ark., have been visiting in Memphis.

•

NORMAN AYERS, Southern division sales manager for Warners, will return here today from Philadelphia and Washington.

•

CHARLES FELDMAN, Universal-International's Western division sales manager, was in Omaha last week.

•

DON BUFFINGTON, former 20th Century-Fox salesman at Atlanta, has been transferred to New Orleans.

•

RICHARD DE ROCHEMONT, head of March of Time, will leave here Thursday for a tour of Europe.

•

SHIRLEY ROSS is here from the Coast.

MILTON KUSELL, general sales manager of Selznick Releasing Organization, returned to New York at the weekend from Philadelphia.

•

ALLEN GRANT, manager of Century's Patio Theatre, Brooklyn, a former U. S. infantry lieutenant, has been awarded the Order of the Crown of Italy, rank of Knight, in recognition of "meritorious service" performed after the liberation of Italy.

•

LEON BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, is in Omaha from New York attending the Allied of Iowa and Nebraska convention.

•

HAROLD DUNN, assistant sales manager for Producers Releasing Corp., has returned to New York from a two-week tour of exchanges.

•

JAMES A. FITZPATRICK, producer of Fitzpatrick Traveltalks, has arrived here from the Coast.

•

SHIAVAX C. CAMBATA, India circuit-owner, has arrived in New York from Bombay.

•

HAL HORNE, of Story Productions, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

200 at Iowa-Nebr. Omaha Meet Today

OMAHA, May 4.—More than 200 are expected to attend the Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska annual convention opening here tomorrow.

Leo F. Wolcott, Eldora, Ia., will preside at a board meeting in the morning. Howard Brookings, president, Oakland, Ia., will open a noon all-industry luncheon with Mayor Charles Leeman giving the address of welcome.

Speakers at the luncheon and during the afternoon will include: H. A. Cole, Dallas, president of Allied Theatre Owners of Texas; William L. Ainsworth, Fond du Lac, Wis., president of the ITO of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan; and Robert Livingston, associate of Cooper Theatres, Lincoln. Wolcott will discuss the Motion Picture Foundation. Also tentatively scheduled as speakers are Abram F. Myers, Washington, board chairman and general counsel, and Jack Kirsh, president, respectively, of Allied States.

On Tuesday, speakers will include: George March, Iowa-Nebraska vice-president; Tim Evans, Clinton, Ia., secretary; Harold Field, Minneapolis, president of the Pioneer and Field Brothers circuits, and Charles Niles, Anamosa, Ia., "Allied Caravan" chairman.

Among other topics of the meeting will be the Federal anti-trust action, legislation and tax problems, film rentals, organizational activity, public relations, percentage pictures and checkers, and formation of a Motion Picture Foundation unit for this area.

Check Permanency Of N.J. Federation

The trustees of the Federation of New Jersey Theatre Owners, meeting in Newark on Friday, voted to make a survey among all theatre owners in the state to determine whether the theatremen favor continuance of the Federation as a permanent tax-fighting organization.

It was decided at the meeting that, meanwhile, the Federation will offer assistance to exhibitors in the 12 Coastal cities in combatting passage of tax bills by those municipalities, which, at the recent legislative session, were empowered to levy three per cent admission taxes.

George Gold, Federation director-chairman, presided at Friday's meeting. Others present were: Ed Lachman, Harold Blumenthal, William Phillips, Louis Weber, Frank Damis and Pete Gage.

$600,000 Ad Budget For 2 Para. Films

Paramount Pictures has earmarked $600,000 for the advertising budgets for "Welcome Stranger" and "Perils of Pauline," it was disclosed by Curtis Mitchell, national advertising-publicity director. Paramount plans to give the productions two of the biggest promotion campaigns in its history, Mitchell said.

"Welcome Stranger" is set for special handling, having been withdrawn from the 1946-1947 release schedule.

"Perils of Pauline," in Technicolor, will go into general release in the first week of July.

Newsreel Parade

MEXICAN President Aleman's visit to the United States is reviewed in all current newsreels. Other highlights include Chiang Kai-Shek on vacation and the British Royal Family on its African tour. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 71—M[illegible] reports on failure of Moscow [illegible]. Charles Gilbert is installed as Bishop of Protestant Episcopal Church. Truman welcomes Mexico's President Aleman to the U. S. Chiang Kai-Shek on vacation. British Royal Family in Africa. Australian girls wear scarves for bathing suits. British soccer final. Boats shooting the rapids.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 269—Mexican President gets ovation on visit to U. S. Royal Family sees Victoria Falls. Chiang Kai-Shek on vacation. Strange visitors, duck-billed Platypuses. British football.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 72 — Capital hails Mexican President. Royalty meets in Rhodesia. Animal world; Platypuses from Australia. Chiang Kai-Shek visits birthplace. 1947 pioneers: Veterans win stakes in rich acres.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 74—Czech collaborators sentenced. Princess Katherine weds. Assembly-line homes. Chiang on vacation. Mexico's President visits the United States.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 35 — Mexican President welcomed to the United States. Dynamite blast set off by Palestine terrorists. Royal Family visits Victoria Falls. Funeral rites for Danish king. General Franco reviews victory parade in Madrid. Greek King takes oath in Athens. Platypuses draw throngs to Bronx Zoo. Yo-yo demonstration at Houston, Tex.

Revenue Unit Plans New Tax Grouping

WASHINGTON, May 4.—A breakdown of admission tax figures issued each month by the U. S. Bureau of Internal Revenue into three categories, including a general admissions' figure which would cover motion pictures, legitimate theatres, sports events and other such admissions, is contemplated, a bureau spokesman discloses. The new categories are expected to be instituted next month.

In addition to general admissions, the groups will include: cabaret taxes, which last year accounted for about one-eighth of all collections, and "other" admissions, to include taxes on sales by ticket brokers in excess of box-office prices, leases of boxes or seats over the amount for which similar accommodations are sold, and admissions sold by proprietors in excess of established prices.

26 'Premieres' for Allied's '5th Avenue'

WASHINGTON, May 4.—Twenty-six first-run premieres of Roy Del Ruth's "It Happened on 5th Avenue" in key cities during May have been booked within the past week, it is announced by Steve Broidy, president of Allied Artists. Cities include Philadelphia, Washington, New Orleans, Buffalo, El Paso, Cleveland, Birmingham and Albany, and each opening will be handled by a member of Lou Lifton's newly enlarged staff of field exploitation men.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING

OF



JOAN BENNETT

ROBERT RYAN • CHARLES BICKFORD

in

THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH

Directed by JEAN RENOIR

Screen Play by Frank Davis and Jean Renoir

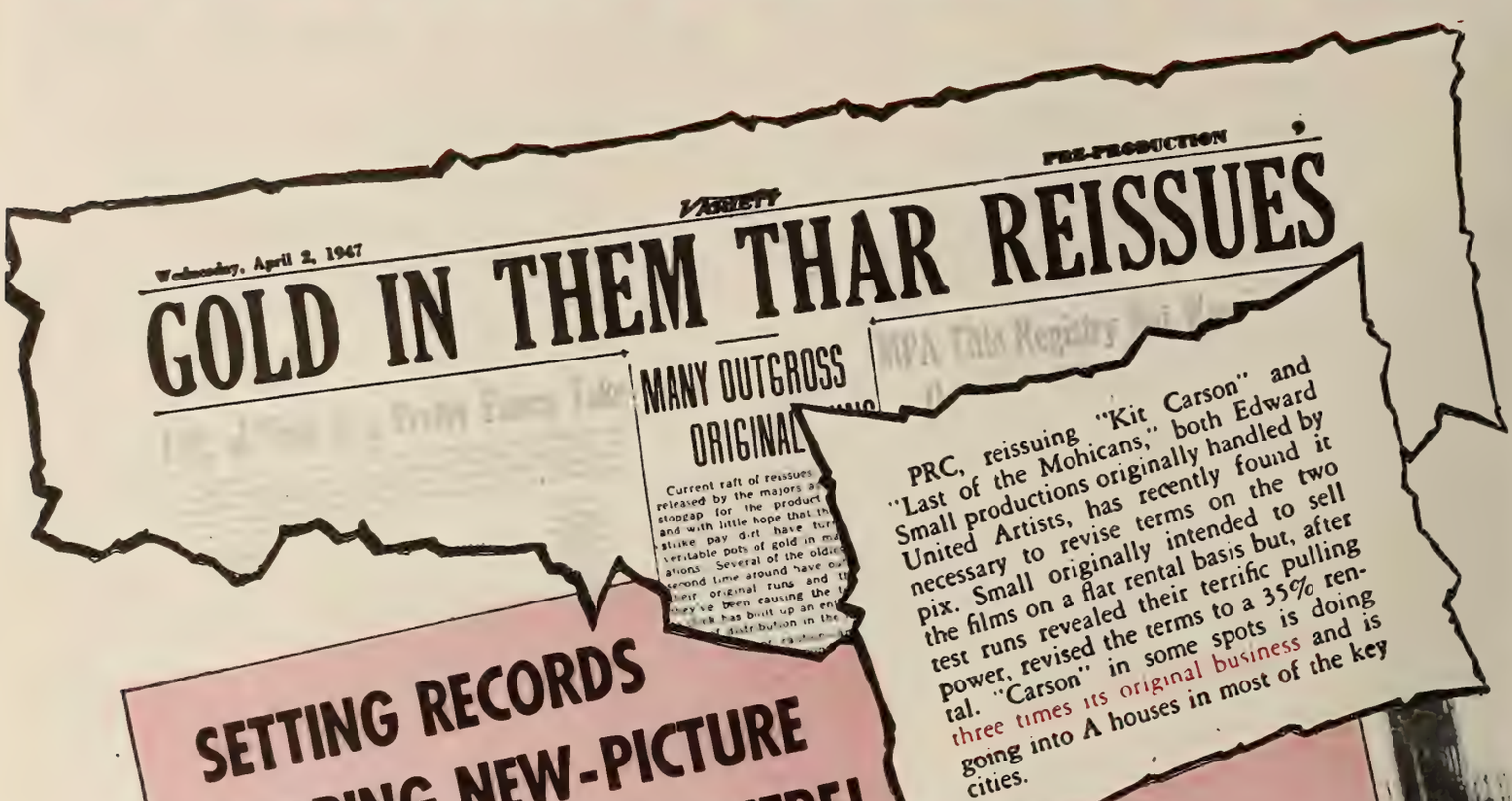
RKO RADIO PICTURES



NORMANDIE THEATRE, 51 East 53rd St., at Park Ave., New York, N. Y.

TUESDAY, MAY 13th at 10:30 A. M. Sharp

SENSATIONAL BUSINESS IN



VARIETY

PRE-PRODUCTION

Wednesday, April 2, 1947

GOLD IN THEM THAR REISSUES

MANY OUTGROSS ORIGINAL

Current raft of reissues released by the majors as a stopgap for the product and with little hope that th strike pay dirt have turn veritable pots of gold in ma ations. Several of the oldie second time around have ou their original runs and th they've been causing the h ek has built up an ent distribution in the

PRC, reissuing "Kit Carson" and "Last of the Mohicans," both Edward Small productions originally handled by United Artists, has recently found it necessary to revise terms on the two pix. Small originally intended to sell the films on a flat rental basis but, after test runs revealed their terrific pulling power, revised the terms to a 35% rental. "Carson" in some spots is doing three times its original business and is going into A houses in most of the key cities.

SETTING RECORDS TOPPING NEW-PICTURE GROSSES--EVERYWHERE!

NEW YORK (Brandt)
Just concluded sensational 4-week extended run!

CHICAGO
Two terrific weeks, with first week doubling house average!

LOS ANGELES
Four Houses Day-and-Date!

BOSTON (Brandt)
Three weeks . . . talk of the Hub!

SAN FRANCISCO (Paramount)
Held over after a record-breaking week!

CINCINNATI (RKO)
Far ahead of new-picture averages!

WASHINGTON (Loew)
One whopping week for the combination!

ST. LOUIS (Loew)
Way-above-average engagement!

YOUNGSTOWN (Warner)
Report absolutely unbelievable figure!

CLEVELAND
"Carson" only, sets Euclid Avenue on its ear!

NEW HAVEN (Loew)
Great engagement leads the city!

COLUMBUS (Loew)
Solid week betters new-picture business!

DAYTON (Loew)
Record by these re-release sensations!

Re-Released with pride by Producers Releasing Corporation . . . Share the tremendous bo

CIRCUIT AFTER CIRCUIT...

Loew ...RKO... Warner ...M & P... Brandt ... Fabian ... Great States ... Schine ... Fox —and other chains and independents now cashing in on star-powered "Kit Carson" and "Last of the Mohicans"—singly or as the most terrific package ever offered!



DANA
ANDREWS
the marquee name that will sell tickets for you!

EDWARD SMALL presents

Kit Carson

JON HALL · LYNN BARI



GRAND-SCALE OUTDOOR ACTION SMASH IN THE CURRENT POPULARITY TREND!



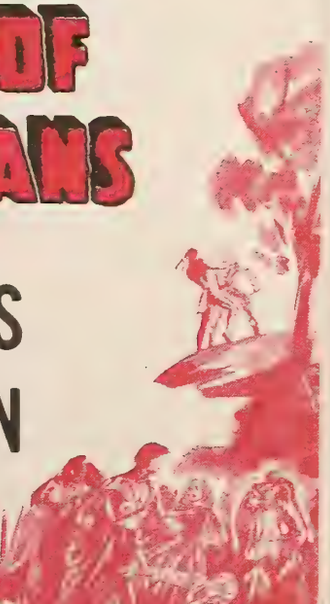
EDWARD SMALL presents

THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS

RANDOLPH SCOTT with BINNIE BARNES

HENRY WILCOXON

AND A CAST OF THOUSANDS!



NEW... TRAILERS PRESSBOOKS ADVERTISING ACCESSORIES

ce business of these attractions with us..... contact your Exchange..... Immediately

Australian State to Ask Circuit Limit

By CLIFF HOLT

SYDNEY, April 28 (By Airmail).—Indications that the New South Wales government will exert pressure for legislation to limit the number of theatres which any circuit may control is contained in a statement that circuits are forcing independents out of business. However, trade observers are inclined to regard any such legislative attempts as fortuitous since licensing in New South Wales is already controlled by law and permits for theatres are difficult to obtain except in areas where underseating exists.

Arising from a statement made by Chief Secretary of New South Wales Baddeley, in the Assembly, the legislative proposal is tied to the return of the incumbent N.S.W. government to power in forthcoming elections. This is likely, according to political observers.

Meanwhile, the first commercial exhibition in Australia of 16mm. features took place recently in the township of Hillen, N.S.W., climaxing a year of organizational activity by M-G-M, Paramount and 20th Century-Fox. Paramount and 20th-Fox will distribute their 16mm. product jointly in Australia and New Zealand, while Warner, also in that field, expects the arrival of a first shipment of prints shortly.

German Film Exports Await U.S. Approval

WASHINGTON, May 4. — Rep. McDonough of California has disclosed that he had been assured by the War department that the order permitting German film exports has not yet received final approval.

Army officials told him, McDonough said, that the matter is being discussed by military government representatives in the War department, and assured him that they would keep him posted on any further developments.

Heppberger Gets New Carbon Post

C. E. Heppberger of National Carbon's Chicago office has been appointed to the technical specialists group, which offers special service to the film industry in technical matters pertaining to lighting carbon applications. Others in this group are C. W. Handley, who serves the West; P. D. Ries, who serves the East, and W. C. Kunzmann, who covers nationwide general activities. The group is directed by E. R. Geib from the company's Cleveland office.

Federal Buys 'Elysees'

HOLLYWOOD, May 4. — Boris Morros, now in Paris, has bought the rights to the story and title of "Champs Elysees," a picture produced in France in 1932, his partner, William LaBaron, announces here. Federal Films, Inc., will produce the film on its 1948 production schedule. Albert Grassi, who wrote and produced the original will bring the story up to date. Morros is now in France looking over facilities with a view to filming a forthcoming Federal production there.

Films Aid Musicians' Employment in NY

Gain in employment for Musicians' Local No. 802 is reported by *Trade Union Courier*, resulting from a trend to shoot the music in Eastern studios for many musical films.

This trend, plus the new contract with newsreels calling for the use of musicians instead of digging out scores from film libraries is expected to furnish additional employment for some time, it was said.

Seattle Trust Action Hearing on June 17

SEATTLE, May 4.—U. S. District Court Judge John C. Bowen has announced that arguments in the anti-trust action brought by the Venetian Theatre Co. and the Theatre Investment Co. will be offered on June 17, after which the court is expected to give a decision. The case is not only against RKO film distributors, as previously announced, but also against seven other motion picture producer distributors and four exhibition corporations owning theatres in Washington and Oregon. The original trial last November ended with a deadlocked jury after eight weeks of court proceedings.

Changes at Para.'s Charlotte Branch

CHARLOTTE, May 4.— The following changes have been announced at the Paramount exchange here: Bill Holliday, Eastern North Carolina salesman, has been promoted to sales manager in Atlanta; E. C. DeBerry will take over Eastern North Carolina, and Lawrence Terrell, former booking manager, has been made a salesman.

Also, Joe Cutrell has been promoted to booking manager. Harry Keer has been promoted to first booker. Webber Howell has been promoted to second booker.

Meltzer Heads Guild Of Scenarists Here

Norman Meltzer has been elected temporary chairman of the newly-organized Eastern Screen Writers Association, which has set as its purpose the organization of scenarists here "to advance their mutual economic and social interests." Held here last week, the meeting appointed a committee to investigate the possibilities of affiliation with other writers' organizations.

New Mexican Company

MEXICO CITY, May 4.—Exclusive distribution of English pictures in Mexico is the purpose of the company just organized here by Carlos A. Madrazo, ex-Congressman, and Adan Ramirez Lopez, a civil engineer.

New Upstate Drive-In

ALBANY, N. Y., May 4.—The Middletown Drive-in Co. will soon start construction of a 350-car theatre in Middletown. Harry Lamont will operate for the company, of which W. W. Smith is president.

Cleveland Variety Gains 58 Members

CLEVELAND, May 4.—The board of directors of the local Variety Club, Tent No. 6 approved 58 new membership requests during the past three weeks.

A summer boys' camp is being sponsored by the tent.

CHARLOTTE, May 4.—Eight members of the Charlotte Variety Club and their wives will attend the 11th annual convention of the Variety Clubs of America in Los Angeles May 13-17, Cy Dillon, chief barker of the Charlotte club, announces. The club here will be officially represented by George Roscoe, first-assistant chief barker, and H. H. Everett, past chief barker and now national canvasman.

Other members and their wives who will be present are: Mr. and Mrs. Scott Lett and Mr. and Mrs. F. W. White of Charlotte, Mr. and Mrs. George Parr and Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hough of Lancaster, S. C., Mr. and Mrs. Phil Wicker of Greensboro, N. C., and Mr. and Mrs. Worth Stewart of Dunn, N. C.

MEMPHIS, May 4.—Mid-South delegates to the national Variety Club convention, to be held in Los Angeles from May 13 to May 17, will leave here on May 9. Delegates include: Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Lightman, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Flexer, Mr. and Mrs. Orris Collins, Mr. and Mrs. Herb Kohn, Tom O'Ryan, Bill Ramsey, Joe Simon, Tom Baldridge and William Goodman.

Second Feature for 'GI' Rod E. Geiger

Rod E. Geiger, the "GI" who brought a print of "Open City" to America from Rome in his barracks bag after the war, has arrived in New York with his second Italian-made picture, "Paisa" which was cited at the Venice Film Festival.

Geiger, co-producer of "Paisa" has not yet completed all plans for its release here, but he has announced that distribution will be handled by Mayer and Burstyn, which distributed "Open City."

Another French House

ALBANY, N. Y., May 4.—The management of the Colonial has booked the French picture, "Les Enfants du Paradis" for a five-day engagement, from tomorrow. Success of "Henry V," when presented at the theatre in March for a similar period, led owners Jack Holt and Jack Olshansky to try another foreign-made feature. If patronage warrants, other foreign films will be booked from time to time.

'Henry V' Breaks Record

"Henry V," Laurence Olivier Technicolor production, which closed Saturday night here, "broke every existing long-run record" for any British motion picture to play New York, according to United Artists, distributor of the picture. "Henry V" ran 12 weeks at the City Center and then 35 weeks at the Golden Theatre.

Sophie Tucker Feted

The Jewish Theatrical Guild honored Sophie Tucker at a testimonial dinner here last night.

Johnston Promises to Aid 'Red Probers'

WASHINGTON, May 4.—MPA president Eric Johnston has assured J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee, that Thomas would have the cooperation of the industry in his committee's Hollywood investigation.

Johnston said that all portions of the industry for which he spoke pledged their cooperation. He was replied that if he needed assistance from industry sources he would be certain to ask for it.

Thomas heads a three-man subcommittee of the Un-American Activities committee which is slated to leave shortly to investigate communist activities in Hollywood. Other committee members are Representatives Wood of Georgia and McDowell of Pennsylvania.

Columbia Honors Gene Autry Here

Gene Autry, who will join Columbia pictures as producer and star on May 15, was guest of honor at a press reception sponsored by the company at the Hotel Astor here on Friday.

Columbia representatives present included: J. A. McConville, Rube Jackter, Louis Weinberg, Louis Astor, Leo Jaffe, George Josephs, Ben Serkowich, Hortense Schor, William McHale, Jack Meyer, Al Rhinelander and Ray Murray.

Autry said that he would make four films for Columbia this year and four next. All but the first will be in Cinecolor.

Receiver Requested For N.C. Theatres

CHARLOTTE, May 4.—Phillip Berler, Daisy Berler, and E. M. Loew have filed suit in Superior Court against H. B. Meiselman, Claire Meiselman, Carolina Theatres, Inc., and Manor Theatre, Inc., asking that a receiver be appointed for the defendant companies. Judge Zeb V. Nettles set Tuesday for a show-cause hearing on whether a receiver should be named.

The action resulted from a disagreement between Berler and the Meiselmans.

MGM Cancels 2 Shows

Exhibitor trade showings of M-G-M's "Fiesta," scheduled for May 19 in New York and Los Angeles and a day later at other key cities, have been cancelled; new dates will be set shortly. As originally announced, "Cynthia" will be shown in New York and Los Angeles on May 12 and elsewhere on May 15; and "Romance of Rosy Ridge" will be shown on May 26 in Los Angeles and New York, and on May 27 in all other exchanges.

Video Station Request

WASHINGTON, May 4.—The Philadelphia *Daily News* has requested permission of the Federal Communications Commission to build a commercial television station on channel No. 12.

Radio Station WIP has also filed a request for a video station on the same channel, over 33 kilowatts.

Technicolor Boost Nets Record Output

Improved operations and a speeding-up of machines resulted in a record output of 165,000,000 feet of Technicolor positive prints last year, Herbert T. Kalmus, president and general manager reports to stockholders. Kalmus points out that that figure was attained even though the company shipped less than 50 per cent of normal deliveries during the last three months of 1946 because of the Hollywood studio strike.

In 1943, Kalmus' report states, the company shipped 125,000,000 feet of positive prints; in 1944, 162,000,000 feet, and in 1945, 160,000,000 feet. Just prior to the strike, which started in Oct., 1946, important progress had been made toward overcoming the backlog due to the delays of the 1945 strike and due to increased demands for prints, he said.

The procedure for getting back to normal deliveries and for expanding Technicolor's volume even further to meet the demand for more pictures in color would seem, Kalmus states, to lie in the following directions: Cessation of strikes with reasonable output per man-hour; increase of capacity by adding to buildings and machinery, installation of improvements which have been developed in the company's laboratory but not yet employed in operations. Technicolor has purchased a site in Van Nuys, Cal., for the building of a new plant.

Kalmus said net profit of Technicolor in 1946 was $436,168, a decrease from the $667,441 earned in 1945. Last year's earnings were equal to 48 cents per share, against 74 cents in 1945.

Net sales last year rose to $13,057,510, from $11,614,779 in 1945. However, net costs rose from $10,351,818 in 1945 to $12,377,048 in 1946. Taxes dropped from $364,843 in 1945 to $23,369 last year.

Technicolor, Ltd., of England, reported a net profit of $190,364, after taxes, for the year ended Nov. 30, 1946, compared to $160,196 in the previous year, Kalmus' report states, adding that negotiations under way with J. Arthur Rank, Sir Alexander Korda and other British producers are expected to result in an annual production of 15 or 20 Technicolor pictures in England.

Technicolor stock outstanding on Dec. 31, 1946, totaled 911,205½ shares, a record figure. Stock outstanding on Dec. 31, 1945, totaled 907,872½ shares.

Mesibov Switches Three Exploiteers

Everett Olsen, Paramount field exploiteer working out of Minneapolis, has been transferred to the Southern territory, by Sid Mesibov, assistant exploitation manager. He will be in charge of the territory serviced by the New Orleans and Charlotte branches.

Leonard Allen, who has been covering Charlotte, New Orleans and Atlanta, will limit his jurisdiction to the latter city. E. G. Fitzgibbon has had the Minneapolis branch added to his territory, which already includes Chicago and Milwaukee.

Sheeky Gets 25 Re-Issues

William R. Sheeky, president of Grand International Pictures, has made arrangements to handle 25 feature reissues.

Review

"Hoppy's Holiday"

(*Hopalong Cassidy Productions—UA*)

PRODUCER Lewis J. Rachmil's latest Hopalong Cassidy offering presents comparatively little in the way of gun-fighting, hard riding and fisticuffs. The main emphasis in this one is on slap-stick and exchanges of conversation. Hence, in order to determine how well it will go over with devotees of cowboy fare, an exhibitor should weigh the extent of genial William Boyd's popularity with the patrons of his theatre. If the customers want action, they will find very little of it in "Hoppy's Holiday." If they go for Boyd, the shortage of action should not matter much.

The screenplay, by J. Benton Cheney, Bennett Cohen and Ande Lamb, based on an original by Ellen Corby and Cecile Kramer, takes "Hoppy" (Boyd) and his pals, Andy Clyde and Rand Brooks, on a vacation trip to a frontier town, where the citizens are unknowingly being swindled by a "city slicker" (Leonard Penn). It does not take "Hoppy" long to see through Penn's fraudulent scheme, and it does not take him long either to effect the return of the stolen funds when Penn and his men have climaxed their swindle with a bank robbery. Other players include Andrew Tombes, Jeff Corey, Mary Ware, Donald Kirke and Hollis Bane. George Archainbaud directed.

Running time, 60 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

ASCAP Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

being made within Ascap just prior to the recent death of John G. Paine, general manager of the Society. The plans are expected to be revived in the near future, although they may wait upon designation of a successor to Paine. Walter Douglas, head of the Music Publishers Association, currently is being mentioned as a possibility for the Ascap post.

Paine and Richard Murray, the latter in charge of Ascap's study of the theatre tax increase, held an informal meeting with Herman Levy, counsel for Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, several weeks ago. MPTOA would send a representative to any general meeting of exhibitors with Ascap which might be arranged in the future, officials indicated.

Spokesmen for American Theatres Association also have stated that they did not consider the music tax subject within the sphere of trade practices which ATA is prohibited by its by-laws from considering. They expressed opposition to the proposed increase in the tax and said they would join in a fight on it.

Meyers and Levy also have voiced opposition to an increase in the levy. Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey and the I.T.O.A. of New York also have voiced opposition to the Ascap proposal and both are furthering legal actions against the Society. They also have expressed interest in being represented at any general meeting of exhibitors which might be arranged by Ascap to discuss the subject.

Some suggestions have been advanced that the tax might be transferred from the exhibitors to the producers but because of the latter's strong position on the Ascap board of directors through their music subsidiaries, it is doubted whether that could be achieved without the complete acquiescence of the film companies. In that event, the tax would become part of film rental.

Reception for Doran

Paramount will give a reception for D. A. Doran, studio production executive, at the 1-2-3 Club, here, Wednesday afternoon. Hosts will be Russell Holman, Eastern production head; John Byram, chief of the company's play department, and Alan Jackson, Eastern story editor.

Industry Troubles to Argentine President

By NATALIO BRUSKI

BUENOS AIRES, April 28 (By Airmail).—The Asociacion de Empresarios Cinematograficos has agreed to present its labor, government and tax troubles to the President of the Republic for consideration.

Exhibitors here held two meetings recently to discuss the increase in taxes, the closing of theatres for noncompliance with the rules compelling exhibitors to show national films, the increase in rentals and percentages, and wage increases sought by employes. During the first meeting consideration was given to a general closing of theatres. The discussions, however, were continued at a second session at which it was decided to present the problems to the President.

Three theatres were closed recently for two days when they refused to show national product. It has now been agreed that before any other closings are ordered the particular theatre's case will be reviewed by the Comite Arbitral Cinematografico.

Approach Agreement At News-of-the-Day

Agreement on contracts for office employes of M-G-M's News-of-the-Day and for workers of Robbins, Feist and Miller, music publishing subsidiary of M-G-M, is expected to be reached before the end of this week, according to a spokesman for the Motion Picture Home Office Employes Union, Local No. H-63, IATSE. Negotiations on the News-of-the-Day contract will be resumed here tomorrow.

AGVA Head Files Suit

PHILADELPHIA, May 4.—A Federal Court suit asking $500,000 damages from 10 members of AGVA Local No. 6 has been filed here by Matt Shelvey, national director of the American Guild of Variety Artists, AFL. Shelvey and five others were arrested and later acquitted of charges of forcible entry into the local's office last February.

The local and national officers are having a jurisdictional squabble here.

Short Subjects

"Happy Go Lucky"

(*Terrytoon-20th Century-Fox*)

When the wisecracking magpies invade an orchard they run afoul of a watchdog. However, the dog gets the worst end of the adventure as the magpies bounce around the orchard and farm enjoying the delicacies. Produced in Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"Aladdin's Lamp"

(*Terrytoon-20th Century-Fox*)

Baghdad is the locale for this Mighty Mouse subject in Technicolor. When the Sultan's daughter secretly tries to meet Mighty Mouse, scheming thieves attempt to kidnap her but the Mouse foils all of their attempts. Running time, seven minutes.

"Cat Trouble"

(*Terrytoon-20th Century-Fox*)

The talking magpies are appointed guardians of a little bird but their trouble begins with the arrival of a villainous cat. However, the bird and the magpies make life miserable for the feline and finally send her scampering off. Produced in Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"Tanbark Champions"

(*Sports Review-20th Century-Fox*)

"Tanbark Champions" are the thoroughbred horses which appear in horse shows throughout the country. Produced by Edmund Reek and photographed by Jack Painter, this subject takes the audience into several arenas where horse shows are being held. Running time, eight minutes.

"Deadend Cats"

(*Terrytoon-20th Century-Fox*)

Produced in Technicolor, Mighty Mouse's life is threatened by a tough gang of alley cats operating a "black market." Despite the danger, Mighty Mouse leads the cat gang a merry chase and in the end is victorious in breaking up the gang and its operations. Running time, seven minutes.

"Mexican Baseball"

(*Terrytoon-20th Century-Fox*)

Gandy Goose and his friend, Sourpuss, engage Mexican League Bulls in a baseball game to end all baseball games. Gandy's faultless pitching puts the bulls through their paces and the Mexican team finally goes down to defeat. Produced in Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"Gay 90's"

(*Warner Brothers*)

Two lovers of the "Gay 90's" on a picnic are too busy for food, something which a colony of ants are not. It doesn't take long for the rush, with all the trimmings of a "Gay 90's" revue: singing waiter, carousel, can-can dancers, etc. In Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"Meet Mr. Mischief"

(*Columbia*)

Harry Von Zell, a radio announcer, seems bent on driving everyone wild with his practical jokes. It takes the humor-provoking strategem of his wife to frighten him out of the habit. Running time, 17½ minutes.

NOW PLAYING 212 SITUATIONS

...With city after city reporting a LONGER RUN and MORE MONEY than ever before in box-office history!

SAMUEL GOLDWYN

presents

"The Best Years of Our Lives"

starring

Myrna Loy • Fredric March • Dana Andrews

Teresa Wright • Virginia Mayo • Hoagy Carmichael

and introducing **Cathy O'Donnell** *and* **Harold Russell**

Directed by **William Wyler** • *Screen Play by* **Robert E. Sherwood**

From a Novel by **MacKinlay Kantor** • *Director of Photography* **Gregg Toland**

To be released by RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.



Winner Of 9 Academy Awards

Television Talks Open IRE Meeting

CINCINNATI, May 4.—The opening session of the Institute of Radio Engineers' spring technical conference, held here on Saturday, discussed various television problems, including video antenna designs, new approaches to input circuits, intermediate frequency television amplifier design and cathode ray improvements.

Speakers included Stuart W. Seeley of the RCA Radio Corporation of America; F. P. G. Holst of Crosley; R. W. Sanders of Farnsworth; Dr. C. S. Szegho and G. E. Schnable of Rauland and W. E. Bloecker of American Telegraph and Telephone.

Ryder Asks Action

(*Continued from page* 1)

nouncements regarding the industry's utilization of theatre television would be issued soon, and that a more detailed report of his discussion last Wednesday on the subject with Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, would probably come from Johnston.

Commenting on the color television demonstration in Philadelphia last week, Ryder took issue with Dr. V. K. Zworykin, vice president and technical consultant of the RCA Laboratories Division, who maintained that large-screen television pictures must be regarded as still in the laboratory stage. Ryder said: "In my opinion, the color was satisfactory for presentation in a motion picture theatre."

Modification in theatre design will be necessary to utilize theatre television, Ryder said, adding, however, that he does not believe it will be necessary to tear down present theatres and construct television houses.

The most complete collection of information on theatre television will be available to the industry at the society's Fall convention, Oct. 20-24, in New York, which will feature theatre engineering, Ryder announced. On the basis of the data that will be prepared, he promised, theatre men will be able to act on theatre television.

Reviewing the Chicago convention of the SMPE last week, Ryder pointed out that technical papers presented there showed outstanding advancement in the 8 mm. field, to which sound has been added. Similar advancement took place in the 16 mm. field, so that Ryder felt confident in predicting that commercial and educational film manufacturers who have used 35 mm. film may now turn definitely to the 16 mm.

Work done in the 16 mm. field, "for the first time contributes much to the 35 mm. field," Ryder revealed. He also disclosed that unification of effort in the television field is now taking place. Ryder felt that there had been duplication of effort, and that standardization was necessary.

Draddy Gets UA Post

John G. Draddy has been appointed office manager of United Artists' Boston branch, under John Dervin, branch manager, UA reports here.

WANTED

STENOGRAPHER-CLERK IN THEATRE DEPARTMENT. EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY.

PHONE CIRCLE 7-3100

Boxing Film Nettles Boxing Kingpins

Prominent boxing personalities in New York State are disturbed by Enterprise's "Body and Soul," starring John Garfield as a welterweight, because the picture supposedly exposes unsavory gambling practices in ringdom.

The boxing chiefs are said to feel that "Body and Soul" is unduly harsh on boxing and are reported to have suggested changes. The company is understood to be taking the position that the picture presents an honest view. Discussions between Enterprise officials and boxing chiefs have been under way since last week.

Principals declined to comment.

August Production Seen in Hungary

By ALEXANDER FODOR

BUDAPEST, April 29. (By Airmail).—Indications are that Hungary will resume production in August, although at present preparations are handicapped by excited argument over the government's recently issued film decree. That part of the decree most strongly objected to makes it mandatory that all screen plays be censored in advance of production.

When production is resumed, from eight to 10 pictures will be produced annually. This will only be about 25 per cent of the number produced before the war.

American films take up about 80 per cent of playdates in Budapest.

N. M. Filming Set

GALLUP, N. M., May 4.—Harry Sherman will start filming "They Passed This Way," under Alfred E. Green's direction tomorrow. Sherman has signed Charles Bickford, Joel McCrea and Frances Dee for the film.

US Plan to Import Scientists Snags

WASHINGTON, May 4.—The U. S. Government's program to import more than 2,500 German scientists, including many color film experts, has hit several snags, chief of which is the demand by the scientists for American citizenship. The Government has not been willing to accede to this, while the State Department has a policy of refusing to give visas for any person except persecuted ones or relatives of American citizens.

Government officials decline to reveal the number of scientists who have entered this country thus far, but they admit only a handful has come in. New steps would have to be taken to implement the U. S. program in the near future, these spokesmen asserted, or the whole program would be considered finished.

One phase of the program, described as "a complete failure" thus far, is the importation of scientists requested by private firms. On the other hand, the Government grants entry to scientists who have been granted teaching chairs in colleges and universities.

Names in the News

(*Continued from page* 1)

calls for increased emphasis on "point-of-sale" selling as the most important factor in film promotion.

In addition to his new duties, Pickman will continue as publicity manager of Eagle-Lion, in which capacity he will be assisted by Leo Brody, whose promotion to the position of assistant publicity manager was announced recently.

RKO Promotes Stramer To Manager for Peru

Hugo Stramer has been promoted to the post of RKO Radio manager for Peru, by Phil Reisman. He replaces Ricardo Canals, who has taken over in Colombia. Stramer was formerly RKO Radio's traveling auditor in Latin America and prior to that was chief accountant for the company in Argentina.

Italy Sponsors Int'l Film Technique Show

VENICE, May 4.—First International Exhibition of Motion Picture Technique will be held here from Aug. 14 to Sept. 10, under the auspices of the Italian Ministry of Education and the Commune of Venice. Invitations have been sent to all nations by the Italian government.

The exhibition will present every technical phase of the industry, from the manufacturing of raw film to the appearance of a completed film in a theatre. Specialized sections will include sound registration, optics, costumes, printing, developing, editing and synchronization. Other sections will be devoted to cartoons, scientific and educational films and newsreels.

UA Meet Delayed

(*Continued from page* 1)

pact. Remuneration, longevity and extent of autonomy are the main factors in the negotiations, it was said.

In the event no agreement is reached in advance of the annual meeting, it is likely that Raftery, who has been "interim" head of the company for about five years, will continue in the post until a new president is named and this probably would not be for another six months.

It was authoritatively stated that Arthur Kelly, Chaplin's representative here, will not join the company until a new president moves in and that the latter would have a voice in the nature of Kelly's duties.

That UA will issue public stock, a plan discussed some months ago, is far from being a matter for early action, the spokesman said, pointing out that no underwriter in the country would have a part of such financing of a company whose management is new, or uncertain.

A report that UA would change its policy by financing production was discounted as utterly false. UA is not financing even Chaplin or Pickford productions.

Phila. Exchange Moves

PHILADELPHIA, May 4.—Local Warner exchange is now in its new quarters on North 13th Street.

Film Audiences Triple

(*Continued from page* 1)

and divisional meetings on new product and sales policy, both with and without influences from the New York Federal Court anti-trust suit decision.

"The war proved that motion pictures are indispensable," said M-G-M's advertisinng, publicity and exploitation director, adding: "One thing the Army wanted more than anything else in the way of entertainment was films."

The importance of promotional activities in getting more customers to the box-office, and to continue their attendance, was also stressed by Silas F. Seadler, advertising director; William R. Ferguson, exploitation director, and Herbert Crooker, publicity manager.

The company now uses exclusive spot announcements on 90 radio stations in 45 cities and advertising—direct, cooperative and teaser—and other newspaper forms in 60 cities, Dietz disclosed. He concluded by stating that in the fall the company's own British studios at Elstree will begin the first of three pictures planned there, "The Secret Garden," "Young Bess" and "Romance of Henry Menafee." The company has a roster of 200 stars and feature players, and there are 30 pictures in various stages of work or near completion on the Coast, he said.

Seadler discussed a number of pictures he had seen while on the Coast two weeks ago, namely, "The Birds and the Bees," "The Hucksters," "Cynthia," "Romance of Rosy Ridge," "Living in a Big Way" and "Song of Love," and "roughs" on "Green Dolphin Street" and "Unfinished Dance."

Ferguson stated that, "Advertising and exploitation is the lifeblood of the industry and any exhibitor who doesn't advertise and exploit his pictures suffers, which has been proven."

Crooker stated that 56 magazines and many newspapers and radio commentators are being serviced with publicity material from New York and the studio.

Ernest Emerling, advertising head for Loew theatres, also spoke. He said, "We hope to do the same selling job for M-G-M that its salesmen are doing. Indications are that newspapers are again opening their pages to films for publicity and art."

Dietz introduced Dr. Leo Handel of the Motion Picture Research Bureau; Tom Gerety, editor of the *Lion's Roar;* O. A. Kingsbury of Donahue and Coe and contact man for M-G-M, and Mel Heyman and Sid Goldstein of the M-G-M home office publicity department.

Other speakers included Frank Walker, general manager, and W. W. Early, sales manager for M-G-M Records; Max Weinberg, short subject publicity; Fred C. Quimby, head of short subject production; James A. FitzPatrick; Stuart Dunlap, manager for Loew's International in Argentina, and Margaret O'Brien.

The meeting was concluded with a talk by H. M. Richey on merchandising and exhibitor and public relations.

After concluding his talk, Dietz personally presented each out-of-town delegate with an acre of land in New Mexico, the same as was done in the instance of trade, newspaper and magazine editors recently.

MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATES

SALUTE

THE MOTION PICTURE FOUNDATION



ANNUAL BEACON AWARD DINNER AND DANCE

WALDORF-ASTORIA
GRAND BALLROOM

FRIDAY—MAY 16th, 1947 RECEPTION 7 P.M.



SUBSCRIPTION $10.00 (per person)

INFORMAL



(For reservations, write or phone Nat Harris, 20th Century Fox Exchange)

this Kid's DYNAMITE!



He's SUPER-CHARGED with SHOW-MANSHIP...that BLASTS from your *screen*... and ROARS from your *lobby*...to *sock* your patrons *smack* between the EYES...and *full* upon the EARS...with the high-powered SELLING...that draws a CROWD...to your Box Office!

No job's *too big* for this little guy...*because* ...when it's YOUR attraction that has to be *sold*...you can count on him to do a job of TELLING...a bang-up job of SELLING... that insists on being HEARD...and SEEN... by entertainment-hungry patrons!

He backs up every attraction with *sock-filled* TRAILERS...and *punch-packed* ACCES-SORIES...that make patrons PUT-up...and SIT-up...and make *him* the PRIZE BABY of the Industry!

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 88 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, MAY 6, 1947 TEN CENTS

Television in Theatres Said Not Practical

Equipment Is Inadequate, Film Officials Charge

Television officials of the theatre-owning film companies yesterday indicated that television is not yet adaptable to theatres, mainly because of inadequacies in video equipment.

David Sarnoff, president of Radio Corp. of America, last week charged that the motion picture industry is not aware of television's possibilities.

Ralph B. Austrian, president of RKO Television Corp., said that while he would be "receptive to any instrumentalities that are commercially ready," he has yet to see theatre television equipment that has commercial possibilities.

Present equipment, Austrian commented, is not capable of the long range projection necessary in theatres,

(*Continued on page 6*)

Flexer plans 25 Drive-Ins

MEMPHIS, May 5.—David Flexer, circuit operator, today announced formation of a new company to build 25 drive-in theatres in the U. S. at a cost of $2,500,000. He also announced that A. M. Avery, RKO Radio branch manager in Memphis since 1938, had resigned to become vice-president and manager of the new company. Flexer is president.

Flexer said the company will have an office in New York in addition to headquarters in Memphis, which will be transferred in the fall to a new

(*Continued on page 6*)

Jorgenson Heads Idaho Exhibitors

BOISE, Ida., May 5.—The Idaho Theatres' Association, at its annual meeting here, elected Hugo Jorgenson president, Milt Bonecher vice-president, Roger Mendenhall, secretary, and I. H. Harris treasurer. Directors elected in addition to Mrs. Wall are: Jorgenson, Bonecher, Men-

(*Continued on page 6*)

AFL 'Clarifies' IATSE's Set Jurisdiction

HOLLYWOOD, May 5.—A new "clarification" of the August 27 ruling of the American Federation of Labor executive council concerning the jurisdictional dispute between the IATSE and the Carpenters' union was received here yesterday from the executive council.

The new "interpretation" grants jurisdiction over the "assemblage" of sets to the IATSE and over "construction" of sets to carpenters.

It differs from the previous interpretation by the executive council only in that the term "assemblage" has been substituted for the term "erection" of

(*Continued on page 6*)

250 Delegates Open Coast ITO Meeting

LOS ANGELES, May 5. — With an estimated 250 delegates registered by nightfall, the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners began its five-day convention today at the Ambassador Hotel here. Nearly 8,500 theatres are represented, it was reported.

Robert H. Poole, executive secretary, in opening the business sessions tomorrow, will tell the theatremen that all independent exhibitors, regardless of organizational affiliation, face the same general problems in the forthcoming period of changing sales practices. He will share the speaker's platform with Sam Gillette, president of International Theatres Association; C. J. Severson, president of Montana Theatres Association; Mrs. Mildred Wall, president of Southern Utah Theatre Owners and Victor Anderson, president of Utah Theatres Association.

Para. Buys 258,500 Shares of Own Stock

Paramount has acquired a total of 258,500 shares of its own common stock in the open market at an aggregate cost of $7,222,533, an average of $27.94 per share, Barney Balaban, president, states in his annual report to stockholders, issued yesterday.

Balaban said the stock will be used in connection "with our consideration of effective and economical means of rearranging our holdings" to conform with the New York anti-trust decree.

The report confirms the company's estimate of earnings for 1946 amount-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Report AFL Studio Meeting on May 13

William Green, American Federation of Labor president, has set May 13 as the date for the meeting here of the 12 unions involved in the Hollywood studio strike to endeavor to develop machinery to settle the present strike and to avoid future disputes, it was reported yesterday.

The meeting was called at the direction of the AFL executive council.

Films of Violence Abandoned: Schary

Films depicting arbitrary violence, as typified in gangster pictures such as its own "Born to Kill," will no longer be produced by RKO Radio, Dore Schary, the company's executive vice-president in charge of production, who is here from the Coast for product conferences, said yesterday.



Dore Schary

Gangster pictures which place full emphasis on violence for violence's sake are about to complete their present cycle, he said.

On the other hand, Schary said, RKO Radio will turn its production efforts more toward "experimental" ventures. Decrying the general tendency to follow up a successful picture on any theme with several others built on similar lines, Schary said his company will continue to seek out untried themes and production methods. Among pictures of this type scheduled and now in work at the company's

(*Continued on page 6*)

Elect M. A. Silver Foundation Trustee

PITTSBURGH, May 5.—M. A. Silver, Warner zone manager, was elected Western Pennsylvania Motion Picture Foundation trustee at a meeting held in the William Penn Hotel, here, today.

Morris A. Finkel, president of Allied Motion Picture Theatre Owners

(*Continued on page 6*)

25% Insurance Rate Rise for N.Y. Theatres

Fire Losses, Labor and Material Costs Cited

Fire insurance rates for New York State's 1,500 theatres have been increased by 25 per cent, effective yesterday. Rates for other properties were increased from five to 30 per cent.

Reasons for the general increase in rates, according to the State Insurance Department, is that since 1944 there has been an increase in property values, labor and materials costs, and fire losses. One film industry fire insurance brokerage firm, here also admitted that the high percentage increase in rates for theatres is attributed principally to heavy fire losses

(*Continued on page 6*)

4 Promoted By Rodgers

Herman Ripps, Ralph W. Maw, John S. Allen and Frank C. Hensler have been promoted in the field by William F. Rodgers, M-G-M's distribution vice-president, in order to strengthen by concentration the activities of the company's sales force in the new order under the decree decision.

Ripps, district manager in Albany, has been named field assistant to John P. Byrne, Eastern sales manager; Maw, district manager in Minneapolis, becomes field assistant to Burtus

(*Continued on page 6*)

Film Classics Has All Coast Exchanges

With the acquisition of the exchange and franchise in San Francisco from Robert Lippert, Film Classics has completed its West Coast exchange organization, Sam Wheeler, sales manager, has announced. The purchase is in line with the company's policy of acquiring its own distribution outlets nationally.

The company's first non-reissue, "The Patient Vanishes," starring James Mason, will be set for national release following its run at the Victoria here, Wheeler also announced.

Agnew Cites 'Duel' Day-Date Benefits

Reasoning behind the very numerous simultaneous bookings of "Duel in the Sun" has been explained here by Neil Agnew, president of the Selznick Releasing Organization, who said the plan is the best means of converting into boxoffice terms audience interest in a picture when it is at its peak.

The concentrated promotion of a picture in a wide area results in the maximum of salability, he added, and it follows that the product must be made available to the public in as many theatres as feasible at this high point of sale.

Agnew said that "Duel" will open in 70 theatres in San Francisco and Los Angeles tomorrow, in addition to 54 situations in the Greater New York area.

The picture will be given the same merchandising and distribution treatment throughout the country, in the larger cities mostly and with the number of day-and-date bookings to be limited by the adaptability of the policy in smaller territories, he reported.

He said "Duel" will open in Chicago about the middle of this month and negotiations with a number of theatres are now current.

SRO will sell the picture in much the same fashion in England, Agnew continued, adding that the legal aspects of the corporate structure of the SRO company in that country have been completed by Milton Kramer, counsel, who returned last week from London.

SEC Report Reveals Warner Stock Sale

PHILADELPHIA, May 5.—Activity in film stocks last month included Harry M. Warner's sale of 1,000 shares of Warner Brothers common, leaving his holdings at 295,000. His trust is reported holding 16,000 shares, according to a Securities Exchange Commission report.

At Universal, Daniel M. Sheaffer disposed of 300 shares of common, leaving him 17,407 shares. Charles D. Prutzman reported holding 6,100 shares.

At 20th Century-Fox, Spyros P. Skouras amended his August, 1946, report revealing he acquired 42,000 shares of common through exercise of an option, bringing his total to 47,250 shares.

At Republic Pictures, two directors reported their holdings: Harry M. Goetz, 27,687 shares, and Edwin Van Pelt, 400 common shares. At Monogram, the only activity reported was the sale of 1,000 shares of common by W. Ray Johnston, leaving him 16,617 shares.

The acquisition of 23,459 shares of Associated Motion Picture Industries, Inc., in a stock split-up by that company last October was reported by Onsrud Corp. of Fort Lee, N. J.

Personal Mention

PHIL REISMAN, RKO Radio foreign distribution head, is slated to sail for England Saturday on the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

•

RUDOLPH WEISS, Warner Theatres real estate department chief, left New York last night for Cleveland and is scheduled to return at the end of the week.

•

ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, Universal-International Eastern studio representative, will leave here for the Coast by the end of this week.

•

DONALD NELSON, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, has gone back to the Coast from New York.

•

JOE ROBERTS, Eastern publicity manager for Selznick Releasing Organization, has returned to New York from Texas.

•

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, Central sales manager of 20th-Fox, on tour of the company's exchanges, is due in Indianapolis today from Cincinnati.

ARTHUR SACHSON, Samuel Goldwyn's general sales manager, returned here yesterday from the Coast.

•

JAMES V. PATTINSON, sales director of 20th Century-Fox, Ltd., of Great Britain, and MRS. PATTINSON, arrived in New York from London over the weekend.

•

ED HINCHY, head of Warner playdate department, has returned to New York from a trip to the New Haven and Philadelphia territories.

•

ALEC MOSS, advertising-publicity director of California Pictures, has left New York for a month's stay on the Coast.

•

SID KLEPER, manager of Loew's Poli-College, New Haven, and MRS. KLEPER are parents of a boy.

•

JOHN BECK, executive assistant to LEO SPITZ at U-I, will return to the studio Saturday after a week here.

•

SAM WOOD, producer, is here from Hollywood.

Seek Dismissal of Suit Against Rank

TORONTO, May 5.—Canadian counsel for J. Arthur Rank, General Cinema Finance Corp., Eagle-Lion Films and the J. Arthur Rank Organization, Inc., the last two being American companies have applied at Osgoode Hall here to set aside the concurrent writ against them in the suit for damages filed by Empire-Universal Films and affiliated plaintiffs. The action complains of the alleged transfer of Hollywood Rank product to another Canadian distributing company and it asked for an injunction restraining fulfillment of the alleged contract except to the plaintiffs. Judgment was reserved on the application by Rank and the three defendant companies whose appearance was postponed until their application is disposed of.

Other defendants represented by counsel at this latest hearing were Eagle-Lion Films of Canada and Monogram Pictures of Canada, but no lawyer was present for Odeon Theatres of Canada which was also listed as a defendant in the original writ.

Ansco, United Prod. In Deal for Color

Ansco division of the General Aniline and Film Corp. has signed an agreement with United Productions of America whereby UPA will use the new Ansco color film in its German version of "Brotherhood of Man," now being made for the Civil Affairs Division of the War Department for German distribution.

The agreement was made by J. K. Nunan, West Coast sales manager of Ansco, and Stephen Bosustow and Edward L. Gershman, president and vice-president of UPA, respectively.

N. W. Single Buying Move Is Discredited

MINNEAPOLIS, May 5.—Frank Mantzke, head of Northwest Theatre Service, and Al Aved, operating the Aved Theatre Service, deny that they are interested in any plans of North Central Allied to merge the various buying combines in the Minneapolis territory into one group.

Mantzke said that his organization "couldn't and wouldn't" join in such a merger, and denied that he had been approached to consider the move. Operations of his members "are entirely different" from those of any other buying group," he declared.

Aved, in making his denial, said that "there was some talk along those lines about six months ago, but we didn't entertain the idea at that time and we don't entertain it now."

Burger on Board of International Corp.

Samuel N. Burger has been elected to the board of directors of Loew's International Corp., it was announced by Arthur M. Loew, president. Burger is general sales manager for the company.

His career with M-G-M began in 1923, in special sales work, traveling throughout the United States. In 1926 he was appointed Eastern District manager for domestic sales. Transferring to the international department in 1930, he became special sales representative, working out of New York. In 1940 he was placed in charge of sales for Latin America, and in 1944 was appointed regional director for Latin America. In March, 1947, he was promoted to general sales manager for Loew's International.

Salesmen Form Lodge

PHILADELPHIA, May 5.—Local film salesmen have voted to form a Philadelphia lodge of the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Claudette COLBERT Fred MacMURRAY
"THE EGG AND I"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
LAWRENCE TIERNEY · CLAIRE TREVOR · WALTER SLEZAK
'BORN TO KILL'

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
FRANK SINATRA
KATHRYN GRAYSON
PETER LAWFORD
JIMMY DURANTE
in M-G-M's
'IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN'
IN PERSON
JERRY WAYNE
FRED LOWERY
with Dorothy Rae
MARIO & FLORIA

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTEN · ETHEL BARRYMORE
in "The Farmer's Daughter"
An RKO Radio Picture
A DORE SCHARY Production
RIVOLI
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.
B'way at 49th St.

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR
B'way & 45th St.

ALAN LADD
CARL "ALFALFA" SWITZER
RUSSELL
WILLIAM BENDIX in
CALCUTTA
A Paramount Picture
In Person
DUKE ELLINGTON
And His Orchestra
GOLDEN GATE QUARTETTE
COKE & POKE
BUCK & BUBBLES
PARAMOUNT
TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

Get Hep! Get in Step!
HERE'S YOUR
"HIT PARADE OF 1947"
Starring
EDDIE ALBERT • CONSTANCE MOORE • JOAN EDWARDS
with
GIL LAMB • BILL GOODWIN
WILLIAM FRAWLEY
WOODY HERMAN
and his Orchestra
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
NOW at Brandt's GOTHAM
Broadway & 47th St.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco. New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

House Cuts Federal Cultural Program

WASHINGTON, May 5.—The House Appropriations Committee today made liberal cuts in the 1947-48 budgets of several bureaus indirectly affecting the motion picture industry, but approved a large increase in funds for the anti-trust division.

The committee denied the $31,000,000 requested for the State Department's information and cultural program, including more than $3,000,000 asked for the international motion picture division, which had planned a vastly expanded program in the coming year.

Funds for the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, in which motion picture consultant Nathan Golden is assigned, and for the State Department's office of international trade policy, under which industry advisor George Canty works, were also cut. However, it has been generally reported that these divisions will administer the reduced funds so that neither Golden nor Canty will be affected.

The anti-trust division received $2,400,000, $280,000 more than last year, but $100,000 less than asked by the government. The increased appropriation is held certain to mean more vigorous enforcement activities.

In testimony before the committee, just released today, recently retired anti-trust chief Wendell Berge cited the motion picture industry anti-trust case as "going to the source of monopoly power—the type of case we are going to emphasize." He added that "we think that the way to help independent exhibitors is not by a case here or there but by taking something which strikes at what we believe to be the real wrong in the structure of the motion picture industry. That is, having so many theatres throughout the country owned by the producers."

Rep. Horan of Washington introduced a long statement outlining the activity of the film industry abroad, indicating the industry might take over even more if the government withdrew.

Kraemer Appointed To Deneau Vacancy

ALBANY, N. Y., May 5.—William Kraemer has been named assistant to Louis Schine of the Schine Circuit, Gloversville, taking over a number of assignments in theatre operations previously executed by Sidney Deneau who resigned to join the Selznick Releasing Organization, it is understood along Film Row here. Bernie Diamond, it is also reported, has been appointed head booker as Kraemer's successor.

'Avenue' Set on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, May 5. — Roy Del Ruth's initial production for Allied Artists, "It Happened On Fifth Avenue", has been booked to open in Fox West Coast's top quartet of Los Angeles showcase houses to follow the current "The Homestretch". These theatres are Grauman's Chinese, Loew's State, Fox Uptown and Loyola.

Krimstein Joins Davis

CHICAGO, May 5.—Sam Krimstein, manager of the Logan Theatre for 14 years, has resigned to accept an executive post with Irving Davis, theatre candy concessionaire.

British Lion Net for 1946 Was $420,000

LONDON, May 5.—Net profit of British Lion Film Corp., Ltd., for the year ending March 31 was $420,000.

Ordinary dividend was 30 per cent, compared with 50 per cent for the previous year. The dividend, however, was payable on larger capital, $800,000 ordinary stock being issued last June.

AAA Sets 3 Days Clearance Upstate

Maximum clearance which may be granted by the five major distributors to the Pontiac Theatre, Saranac Lake, N. Y., over the Palace, Lake Placid, N. Y., on pictures to be shown at the Pontiac between Feb. 16 and June 14, and between Sept. 16 and Dec. 23 of each year, has been fixed at three days under the terms of a consent award made by the motion picture arbitration tribunal at Albany, N. Y.

The award stipulates that no clearance shall be granted in licenses hereafter entered into by Loew's, Paramount, 20th-Fox, RKO Radio, and Warners to the Pontiac over the Palace on pictures to be shown at the Pontiac between Dec. 24 and Feb. 15 and between June 15 and Sept. 15 of each year.

Eight Films Cited For Music, Dances

In the *Musical Courier's* contest for the best film music and dance of 1946, the following citations were awarded:

For the best original score, Miklos Rozsa, for "The Killers," produced by Universal-International; best arranged score: Walter Scharf, for "I've Always Loved You," Republic Pictures; best conducted score: Rozsa, "The Killers"; best orchestration: Eugene Zador, "The Killers"; best original song: Edmund Goulding, for "Mam'zelle," in "The Razor's Edge," 20th Century-Fox; best instrumental solo: Louis Kaufman, for his performance in "Of Human Bondage," Warner Brothers; best choreography: Tamara Geva, for the dancing in "Spectre of the Rose," Republic; best musical short, Darrell W. Calker, for "Chopin Musical Moment," Walter Lantz-U-I.

Presentations were made at a luncheon at the Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood, on May 5, by Richard Drake Saunders, Musical Courier's Western representative and writer of the column Hollywood—As I See It, which appears regularly in this publication.

Phila. Trust Case Decision Delayed

PHILADELPHIA, May 5.—No decision was reached in the appeal filed today in the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals by Warner Brothers and other major distributors for review of the anti-trust suit which the court had decided in favor of William Goldman. The defendants who have been ordered to pay $375,000 plus $60,000 lawyer fees contend that Goldman has refused to open the Erlanger theatre although pictures were available.

They claim Goldman passed up first runs for the Erlanger which he purchased for the Karlton which recently became a first run house. This proves, the defendants claim, that the Erlanger was not suitable for first runs.

MPEA Films Move Ahead in Europe

Reports reaching the New York home office of the Motion Picture Export Corp. offer evidence that the American-made product of MPEA member companies is now solidly represented on the screens of MPEA Continental countries—notably in Holland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Rumania.

In Holland, MPEA pictures are running in every Dutch city and town of importance in both first run and subsequent situations. In Czechoslovakia, member company films have consistently, from the first of the year, tenanted seven, eight and nine of Prague's first-run theatres, with similar ratios holding for other Czech key cities. In Budapest, Hollywood product has been playing in as many as 10 of that city's 13 first runs. Of six move-over houses in the Hungarian capital, an average of four have been playing American films.

After a belated start caused by import delays and other local complications, MPEA and its array of product is finally gaining momentum in Rumania.

International competition has thus far not offered any considerable challenge to the popularity of Hollywood product in these countries. While films of Russian, British and French origin are, at present, at a competitive disadvantage through lack of sufficient product, these is little reason to doubt that the topnotch caliber of Hollywood films now being handpicked for these markets, will more than be able to hold their own.

Minnesota Untouched By Adverse Bills

MINNEAPOLIS, May 5.—Minnesota's 1947 legislature enacted a record number of laws but failed to pass a single piece of anti-film legislation although many bills which would affect the industry were in the hopper. Credit for the vigilance in preventing such legislation is being given to North North Central Allied, its executive director Stanley Kane, Joseph Finley, St. Paul, counsel for Minnesota Amusement company and exhibitors.

Some anti-films legislation "came dangerously close" to passage, according to Kane, who said "bombardment" of their representatives by exhibitors "probably held the balance of power" in turning the tide in favor of the film business.

Victor Armand Missing

TORONTO, May 5.—Concern is felt throughout the Famous Players organization over the fact that a passenger on a missing Trans-Canada Airlines plane is Victor Armand, veteran Winnipeg employee of the circuit and Western Division manager in charge of theatre construction and maintenance.

Armand was formerly projection supervisor for the Western territory. He is one of 15 aboard the plane which failed to land at Vancouver and a wide search by RCAF rescue air and sea craft has failed to find any trace of it.

Star Theatre Finishes

EAST LIVERPOOL, O., May 5.—The Star Theatre has been discontinued, the location having been acquired by the Salvation Army.

Muntz and Shore in Producing Firm

HOLLYWOOD, May 5.—Earl Muntz, who dramatized a used car lot into a nationally-known institution, has entered film production with the purchase of the Audio Pictures studio. In partnership with Michael Shore, Muntz will produce features and shorts independently, the first four features being for Screen Guild distribution.

Spanish Film Code Now Being Studied

Possibility of adopting a production code is now under consideration by the Spanish industry, according to word reaching here from Madrid. One such code has been proposed by Francisco Ortiz Munoz, a member of the Spanish board of film censors.

The text also contains a summary of the American Production Code and, as an appendix, the Spanish version of the Encyclical of Pope Pius XI on motion pictures. The Spanish censor board is headed by Garcia Espina, director general of cinematography and theatres in the Ministry of National Education.

Shields, Movietonews Film Editor, Is Dead

Services will be held here tomorrow afternoon for Russell Shields, 55, short subjects film editor for Movietonews, Inc., who died at his home here Saturday after a long illness.

Shields, who was born in Kensington, Pa., was a veteran film editor, having entered the industry with the old Lubin Motion Picture Co. He went to 20th Century-Fox 15 years ago as film editor for Mr. and Mrs. Martin Johnson, then preparing "Congorilla". He was employed by the late Truman Talley to cut "The First World War" and "Double Tiger," and then directed the cutting of 20th Century-Fox short subjects for producer Edmund Reek. Services will be held at the Mizpah Chapel.

Ira Cohn, District Head for UA, Dies

PITTSBURGH, May 5.—Ira H. Cohn, district branch manager for United Artists and one of the pioneers in the motion picture industry, died after a lingering illness here today. Prior to making his new affiliation Cohn was connected for more than 20 years with 20th Century-Fox, mostly as branch manager here.

Dr. Marston Dies at 53

RYE, N. Y., May 5.—Dr. William Moulton Marston, 53, former director of public service for Universal in Hollywood, and later an adviser to film companies and president of All-American Pictures, Inc., died at his home here over the weekend. He also was noted for his pioneering on a blood pressure test which later developed into the "lie detector." His widow, Elizabeth, and four children survive.

Ampro Manager Dies

CHICAGO, May 5.—Bernard C. Lizenby, Central division manager of Ampro Projector Corp., has died here.

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JOSEPH COTTEN
ETHEL BARRYMORE

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Fifth week of World Premiere engagement as big as the first . . . Sixth week's figures match the fifth's—for the picture that's giving Broadway's famous long-run house its highest sustained grosses in months! . . . First Boston week hits top money of biggest attractions — as RKO's newest box-office pacemaker gets set for holdover runs and peak grosses in first runs everywhere!

"The gayest thing in celluloid since 'It Happened One Night'."
— Billy Rose (in his nationally syndicated column)

"One of the truly great American cine-masterpieces. What a performance that Loretta Young turns in — but superb."
— Louis Sobol (in his nationally syndicated column)

Cosmopolitan Magazine's "Movie Citation Of The Month."

"A charming romantickler . . . has its dimples in the right place." *— Walter Winchell*

"It's one you'll want to see."
— Hedda Hopper

"An A-plus movie."
— Louella Parsons

"Amusing, lifelike . . . excellent entertainment."
— Time Magazine

"A very lovely motion picture . . . simple and beautiful."
— Kate Smith

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er"

with CHARLES BICKFORD
ROSE HOBART • TOM POWERS

A DORE SCHARY
PRODUCTION

Directed by H. C. POTTER
Written by ALLEN RIVKIN and LAURA KERR

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Television

(Continued from page 1)

this being in distance from booth to screen.

Earl I. Sponable, technical director for 20th Century-Fox and Movietone News, said that it is the concern of the television industry to develop adequate equipment for theatres and when this is done it will be considered.

Nathan Levinson of Warners said that television is being "considered very seriously" but emphasized that a use for video has yet to be determined and any definite plan could not be developed for some time.

Lester B. Isaac, director of visual and sound projection for Loew's, said that in his opinion an assortment of problems present themselves particularly in the entertainment value of video and economic factors. He said that television could not bring in customers on the strength of its novelty but must provide entertainment that would parallel the motion picture.

He termed as "very important" financial considerations involved in equipping theatres for television. He said that operation of a video projector in a booth would require a special crew and added that the majority of houses around the country could not afford the extra expense.

FlexerPlansDrive-Ins

(Continued from page 1)

building on which he expects to start immediately.

"Each of our drive-ins will handle 700 to 800 cars, using the new type of equipment which permits the placing of a small compact speaker in every car," he said. "We plan to have at least four or five in operation by the end of the coming summer and all 25 operating by the summer of 1949."

One site in a large city has already been purchased and another deal is nearing completion, but Flexer said that he is not prepared as yet to reveal the cities in which the drive-ins will be constructed. Memphis is not included in his present plans.

Flexer said that the drive-ins are only part of a national expansion program he is planning, but that the other phases are being delayed for lack of equipment and because of uncertainties in the trade caused by the pending decree action.

Triumph Buys 'Gamblers'

HOLLYWOOD, May 5.—Dimitri Tiomkin, composer-conductor, has written an adaptation of Dostoevsky's Russian novel, "Gamblers," and has sold it to Triumph Pictures, according to an announcement by David Siegel, Triumph president.

Films of Violence

(Continued from page 1)

studios, he said, are: "Cross Fire," dealing with anti-Semitism; "Set-Up," prize-fight story, and "The Boy With the Green Hair."

The company, Schary said, is planning an expanded program of production in Britain and on the Continent as a means of taking advantage of its frozen funds. In this connection, "Berlin Express," a Bert Granet production, has been scheduled to start in Germany in July, and "The White Tower" is tentatively slated for filming in the Swiss Alps next year, he reported, adding that a number of other stories are being discussed for filming abroad.

Schary said the company hopes to have its complete 1947-48 production schedule set by July. Up to this time, 18 pictures have been completed, five are now before the cameras, and four will be started within the next 60 days. Twelve moderate-cost pictures will be made by the company this year, he disclosed.

Schary believes that many years will pass before war pictures will be popular again. When the "war picture cycle" returns, he said, the industry will have a great responsibility in treating war themes honestly and without the approaches of cynicism and expose as used after World War I.

Paramount Stock

(Continued from page 1)

ing to $44,042,106, which was made public on April 8.

Operating revenues of consolidated companies for last year are put at $194,701,099, as compared with $159,444,374 for 1945. Operating revenues of partly-owned non-consolidated for 1946 aggregated approximately $150,000,000, of which Paramount's share was approximately $70,000,000, it was stated.

Dividends paid during the year aggregated $12,358,349, equivalent to $1.65 per share on the shares as constituted after the stock split.

A net working capital of $73,562,299 is reported, with assets listed at $87,788,271, and current liabilities at $14,225,972.

Balaban states in his report that the company has completed its 10-year program of debt reduction and capital simplification. "On Jan. 4, 1947, neither the company nor its subsidiaries had outstanding any interest bearing obligations or securities senior to the common stock, other than $2,000,000 of parent company notes due 1951, which are convertible into common stock, and $65,850 preferred stock of three Canadian subsidiaries."

AFL Action

(Continued from page 1)

sets in defining IATSE jurisdiction.

Because the studio unions involved in the dispute were unable to agree on the interpretation of the previous definition, producers' representatives are pessimistic of the chances of an agreement resulting from the new "clarification" by the AFL executive council. The consensus appeared to be that the jurisdictional dispute is left about where it was before and nothing has been contributed by the new "clarification" to warrant hope that a settlement has been brought nearer.

The new interpretation charted by AFL president William Green introduced a new and confusing factor into the jurisdictional dispute with both warring unions, which had repudiated the August 27 directive, indicating that they continue to regard the AFL executive council's ruling as inapplicable.

Joseph Cambiano, carpenters' international representative, is expected here Wednesday to arrange a meeting with producers on the basis of the new interpretation.

25% Insurance Rise

(Continued from page 1)

since 1944, and that the other factors mentioned were largely influential.

While the 30 per cent increase applies only to a few cases in New York City, the Department said that the average rise was 8.7 per cent on the basis of 1945 premium income. Further adjustments may come when the regular five-year revision is made after full details of 1947 losses are recorded, the Insurance Department added.

Although the 25 per cent increase for theatres is a blanket one, the increase will less severely affect some theatres than it will others. Theatre premiums are arrived at on the bases of type of construction and location, mainly. It is said to be a safe assumption that few theatres in the state pay the same premium.

Some of the other categories increased in the State include: mercantile and office buildings, 15 to five per cent; mercantile stocks and household furniture, 10 to five per cent; warehouses, 10 per cent; and woodworking plants, 15 to 25 per cent.

Jorgenson Elected

(Continued from page 1)

denhall, Harris, A. Wagner, Max Lloyd, Bob Anderson, Lawrence Jones and Hilmer George.

The association advised that "controversial policies over distribution of 'Best Years of Our Lives' are being adjusted" and that the organization would take no action in the issue of whether the film would be shown in Idaho.

Previously, past-president Mrs. Wall said some Idaho theatre managers had been protesting the increased box-office price which they said film companies are insisting should be charged.

A press statement from the association said: "The main discussion of the annual meeting centered on the organization and scope of the association which will be incorporated and will be charged with promoting the welfare of the theatre industry in Idaho.

Elect M. A. Silver

(Continued from page 1)

of Western Pennsylvania, was elected chairman of the Foundation district committee, which also includes Silver, John H. Harris, Sam Fineberg, Mike Manos, William Blatt, Fred Beedle, Perry Nathan, J. B. Clark, Lee Conrad, Bert Stearn, Robert Coyle, G. Sallows, James Alexander, Morris Lefko, George Notopolos, David Kimmelman and Robert Klingensmith.

Si Fabian of New York was the speaker at the meeting which was attended by 60 industry representatives. Fabian discussed the scope of the Foundation.

Emanuel Named Temporary Chairman at Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, May 5.—At an area organization meeting of the Motion Picture Foundation held at the Broadwood Hotel, here, today, Jay Emanuel was appointed temporary chairman of a committee which will draw up a slate of nominees for trustee, permanent chairman and committee membership. Other members of the temporary committee include Martin Ellis, Samuel Gross, Lewen Pizor, Lester Wurtel.

Harry Brandt, New York exhibitor, addressed the group, reviewing the aims of the Foundation.

Iowa-Nebraska AITO Elects McLucas to Foundation Post

OMAHA, May 5.—Don V. McLucas, United Artists branch manager here, was elected temporary chairman of the Nebraska Motion Picture Foundation unit organized here today on the opening day of the Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska convention. He heads a 16-man committee.

Speakers today were: Howard Brookings, AITO president; H. A. Cole, Dallas, president of Allied Theatre Owners of Texas, and William L. Ainsworth, Fond du Lac, Wis., president of the Independent Theatre Owners of Wis. and Upper Michigan and National Allied treasurer.

Rodgers Promotes 4

(Continued from page 1)

Bishop, Jr., Midwestern sales manger; Allen, district manager in Washington, is appointed assistant to Rudy Berger, Southern sales manager, and Hensler, district manager in Detroit, will assist John J. Maloney, Central sales manager. Kansas City has been added to Maloney's territory.

Sam J. Gardner was appointed assistant to George A. Hickey, Western sales manager, several weeks ago, and will move his headquarters to San Francisco next week. Salt Lake City and Denver branches have been moved into the Midwest division.

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Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

(OL) Current returns are inclined to be spotty, and while a few releases are registering considerably above house averages, others are in the minus column. Still registering strong in its fifth week is "The Egg and I." Weather was mild with occasional rains at the weekend. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 6-9:

THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (55c-65c-75c-85c-95c). On stage: Louis Jordan orchestra and other acts. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $30,000)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000)

SANTA FE UPRISING (Rep.) and JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG (20th-Fox)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $1,750. (Average: $1,600)

LONE STAR MOONLIGHT (Col.) and MY DOG SHEP (Screen Guild)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Gross: $1,200. (Average: $1,100)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 5th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $7,500)

EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.) and CIGARETTE GIRL (Col.)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)

ATLANTA

The weather was cold and unseasonable. Business continued uneven. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 7:

PURSUED (WB)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $19,000)

EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,700)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio)—ROXY (2,446) (25c-50c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,300)

MY PAL TRIGGER (Rep.) and MY DOG SHEP (Screen Guild)—CAPITAL (2,446) (12c-44c). Gross: $5,900. (Average: $5,200)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $16,500)

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Ohio Theatres Face Higher Ticket Tax

COLUMBUS, O., May 5.—The House taxation committee of the Ohio legislature voted 16-0 to recommend passage of a bill to repeal the present state three per cent admission tax and give cities authority to levy taxes in this field. Municipalities would set their own rates, with predictions that some hard-pressed centers would go as high as 10 per cent.

Ohio theatre owners, called to a meeting by P. J. Wood, secretary of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, pledged to stage a last-ditch fight against the bill. The ITO is supporting a Senate bill which would continue the present state tax but return tax money to the county of origin. The admission tax produces about $3,000,000 a year.

High Court Hears Lea Act Arguments

WASHINGTON, May 5.—The Supreme Court heard argument today on the constitutionality of the Lea act, with Justice Department attorneys claiming that Congress had passed the act to protect the radio industry from "labor unions possessing monopoly powers." One Government lawyer said that the "vital question" was whether coercion of a radio station to hire more employes than it needs is immune from congressional regulation merely because it is done by peaceful means.

Coercion of radio stations is possible, he stated, because of the monopoly of the American Federation of Musicians exercised through its head, James C. Petrillo.

Union attorneys claimed the act is an "overhanging threat upon all citizens to exercise constitutional freedom."

Denny Is Named to Conference Chair

WASHINGTON, May 5. — Charles R. Denny, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, has been appointed by President Truman chairman of the international radio conference, which will open in Atlantic City on May 15.

Assistant Secretary of State Garrison Norton will be chairman of the international plenipotentiary telecommunication conference. Assistant Secretary of State William Benton will head a high frequency broadcasting conference.

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Rain Hurts Grosses Here; $72,000 For 'Carnegie Hall'

Rain played a definite part in anchoring most New York first-run grosses to mild levels this week. Focal point of both distributor and exhibitor interest will be tomorrow's opening of "Duel in the Sun" in 54 situations in the New York area and 70 theatres on the Coast.

"Carnegie Hall" was greeted by many eager customers as it made its debut in two theatres here. At the Winter Garden, the film is on its way to a tremendous initial week's gross of $55,000, while at the Park Theatre business probably will run to $17,000, close to capacity.

"Love and Learn" with Ina Ray Hutton's orchestra on the stage is going over moderately at the Strand where a first week's income of about $50,000 is likely. Another newcomer, "Born to Kill" figures to provide the Palace with $19,000 in its first week, which is about fair. First week of "The Big Fix" at the Rialto probably will average $7,500; the film will be replaced on Friday by "Violence." "Hit Parade of 1947" similarly was short with $11,200 apparent for a first week at the Gotham.

"The Jolson Story" is still a lively box-office number after seven weeks at the Music Hall and engagements at New York neighborhood houses. Back at a first-run theatre here, the Victoria, the picture promises to bring $15,000 in a first week; Film Classics' "The Patient Vanishes" will be next "Best Years of Our Lives" at the Astor is performing steadily with $33,000 in view for the 24th week.

"Odd Man Out" is continuing big at the Criterion which looks for $40,000 for a second week. "The Macomber Affair" also is plenty healthy with $36,000 in view for a third week at the Globe.

"Calcutta" is good for $85,000 in a second week at the Paramount where it shares the spotlight with Duke Ellington's orchestra. "The Egg and I" with a Music Hall stage presentation is going over successfully with $130,000 indicated for a second week.

"Monsieur Verdoux" is down to $18,000, estimated, in a fourth week at the Broadway Theatre, while at the Hollywood a fifth week's gross of $20,000 for "The Two Mrs. Carrolls" is fair. "Possessed will follow on May 29. "Homestretch," with a vaudeville show, at the Roxy, probably will gross a fairly strong $73,000 for a second week.

"Smash-Up" and Xavier Cugat's orchestra is close to average in a fourth and final week at the Capitol, on an estimated $60,000; "Duel" follows tomorrow. "The Other Love" is slated to open May 14 at the Rivoli where the present tenant, "The Farmer's Daughter," is holding up fairly well with $29,000 seen for a seventh week.

"Barber of Seville," an Italian film, had a benefit opening at the John Golden last night and is to begin a two-a-day, $2.40 top admission run today.

Chicago Theatre Fire

CHICAGO, May 5. — Slight damage resulted from a back-stage fire at the Chicago Theatre here at the weekend. The audience remained seated while the blaze was extinguished.

NYC, Theatres in Education Venture

In an attempt to enlarge visual education opportunities for its 1,000,000 school children, the City of New York has launched an experimental program involving the use of licensed neighborhood theatres during regular school hours, city license commissioner Benjamin Fielding has announced.

Describing the program as the first of its kind in the nation, Fielding said that thus far over 1,000 school children from four schools have attended three special performances during regular school hours accompanied by teachers and special supervisors from the police, license and fire departments in order to insure maximum standards of safety. All picture selections, he said, are under the direct jurisdiction of the City Board of Education and the expense for the program is underwritten by participating theatre owners. The children are not charged admission. Pictures already exhibited under the program are: "Tom Sawyer," "The Prince and the Pauper," and "Huckleberry Finn." "The Adventures of Mark Twain" is scheduled to be shown on May 23.

Said Fielding: "In view of the broadened program of the Children's Film Library of the Motion Picture Association, and the newly-formed organization of two production units on the West Coast to concentrate on educational subjects involving history, geography and the physical sciences, it is likely that this year's experimental program will be broadened this fall."

Urges Support of 'Clean' Pictures

CLEVELAND, May 5.—Mrs. Lois B. Seltzer, wife of the editor of *The Press* and president of the Federation of Women's Clubs, at a luncheon meeting of the Motion Picture Council of Greater Cleveland in the Higbee Auditorium, said that, in her capacity as a civic leader, she is opposed to federal or state censorship, but said that groups like the Motion Picture Council, must accept the social responsibility of encouraging clean films and rejecting bad ones by their box-office support.

Set for Warner House

Four Continent Films' "Murder in Reverse" will open at Warner Brothers' Brooklyn Strand Theatre on May 14 for an indefinite run.

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Names . . . *in Today's News*

EDWARD D. COHEN, 20th Century-Fox sales supervisor for some Latin American countries, has been promoted to supervisor for all of those countries, by Murray Silverstone, president of 20th-International and Inter-America.



Edward D. Cohen

Cohen, who will have headquarters in Buenos Aires, will have as his aides William W. Sullivan, Argentine manager, who will manage Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay, with headquarters in Rio de Janeiro, and J. Carlo Bavetta, Brazil manager, who will manage Central America and the Caribbean area, with Mexico City headquarters.

Silverstone said the appointments were made in anticipation of increased business.

Heineman, Davis, Weait In New Rank Posts Here

William Heineman, general sales manager of the J. Arthur Rank Organization in Universal-International, has been elected to the board of that Rank unit. John Davis, managing director of the parent Rank Organization in London, has been named vice-chairman of the board here, and Robert Weait, director of Latin American and 16mm. activities, has been elected treasurer. Robert S. Benjamin is president of the U. S. Rank Organization.

Davis is due in New York on Friday with Rank.

Van Dee Heads Polish Unit Of M.P. Export Association

E. Van Dee and Alexander Zablodowski have been appointed manager and sales manager, respectively, of the Motion Picture Export Association in Poland.

Van Dee, formerly press attache at the U. S. Embassy in Warsaw, is now in the Polish capital making preparations for launching the first group of American films under the terms of the MPEA-Film Polski agreement. Zablodowski, veteran film salesman, formerly associated with RKO Radio and Universal International, is setting up organizational machinery in Lodz, where MPEA will also establish headquarters.

Loew's Nets $8,956,779

Loew's, Inc., and subsidiaries report for the 28 weeks ended March 13, 1947, a net income of $8,956,779, after depreciation, taxes and other deductions, subject to a year-end audit. This compares with $8,952,056 for the corresponding 28 weeks in the previous year, Charles C. Moskowitz, Loew treasurer, reported yesterday. This is equivalent to $1.67 per share of common stock against $1.76 a year ago.

Gross sales and operating revenue for the 16 weeks ended March 13 were estimated at $56,655,000, compared with $55,335,000 for the same period last year.

Operating profit for the 28 weeks ended March 13 was $18,236,730, against $20,282,403 for the 1946 period. Reserves for contingencies and depreciation reduced this to $14,563,803 for the period ending March, 1947, against $16,017,630 for the 1946 period, Federal taxes taking the rest—$5,525,016 and $6,680,125 for the 1947 and 1946 periods, respectively.

Program Itinerary Set for Rank Visit

A full six-day program was set here yesterday for the New York visit of J. Arthur Rank and his party, who are due to arrive from London on Friday aboard the *S.S. Queen Elizabeth.*

Accompanying Rank is John Davis, managing director of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, Ltd. Also in the party are Mrs. Rank and Mrs. Davis, both of whom are making their first visit to this country. Rank and Davis came to the U. S. for the first time in June, 1945, when he concluded distribution arrangements with Universal-International and with Eagle-Lion Films.

Rank will be in New York only six days. Friday he will be honor guest and speaker at a luncheon to be given

(*Continued on page* 10)

No British Curbs, Says Pattinson

James V. Pattinson, sales director of 20th Century-Fox, Ltd., of Great Britain, does not believe the British government will impose any new restrictions on the importation of American films.

Pattinson, here for a short visit, pointed out yesterday in an interview

(*Continued on page* 10)

Special U.A. Board Meet Next Tuesday

A special meeting of the United Artists board of directors has been called for next Tuesday, presumably to hear reports on the company's recent and current discussions looking to the selection of a new president of the company.

With several prospects regarded as still in the running, official opinion was divided yesterday as to whether or not a choice would be made by the time of the meeting. Several reliable sources inclined to the belief that a decision might be reached within the next few days.

New Moves in Trust Appeal

Parties to the industry New York anti-trust case are either preparing or have completed new documents for the U. S. Supreme Court in which they will designate "points relied upon" on appeal, these being what they consider to be the most significant of the "substantial questions" which they already have charged to be involved in the New York decision.

Filing of the papers is prescribed by law to allow the appellants, "upon reflection" a means of laying stress upon their allegations of misjudgment or other errors made by the New

(*Continued on page* 10)

Iowa-Nebraska Unit Hits 50% Pictures

OMAHA, May 6.—Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska today pledged not to buy 50 per cent pictures and particularly condemned "outrageous terms by distributors" for "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "Duel in the Sun."

Another resolution, adopted on the final day of the two-day convention, requested distributors to equalize with the East the time to accept or reject a contract in the West. If this is not done the exhibitors agreed to reject them in 14 days.

R. R. Livingston, of Cooper Theatres, Lincoln, was chosen as area trustee of the Omaha Motion Picture Foundation unit, while Don V. McLucas, United Artists branch manager here, who was elected temporary chairman yesterday, was named permanent chairman today.

US Moves for Film Revenue Pact in France

Paris Embassy To Talk Two-Year Fiscal Accord

WASHINGTON, May 6. — The American Embassy in Paris has been authorized to confer with the French authorities on the question of establishing a dollar ceiling for U. S. film imports for the two years commencing July 1, 1946, when the Blum-Byrnes accord went into effect, and on the remittance of blocked film accounts.

This was announced today by George Canty of the State Department's commercial policy division. The French last May demanded the ceiling be fixed at $3,000,000 a year, the yearly pre-war remittance figure.

The American industry believes that this has been outmoded by increased production costs here and increased revenues in France. Observers estimate that the net profit on U. S. films in France from July 1, 1946, to June

(*Continued on page* 10)

Balaban on Tour For UJA Drive

Barney Balaban, national chairman of the film division of the United Jewish Appeal, will leave here tonight for industry meetings in St. Louis, Los Angeles and San Francisco on behalf of the campaign.

Paramount's president will address a meeting of showmen in St. Louis tomorrow and will then proceed to Los Angeles and San Francisco. The San Francisco meeting will be held on May 12, the Los Angeles meeting following. Joseph C. Ansell is chairman of the industry campaign in St.

(*Continued on page* 10)

Walsh Rejects AFL Decision on Sets

Richard F. Walsh, international president of IATSE, yesterday termed "unacceptable" AFL president William Green's latest effort to settle the studio jurisdictional clash between IATSE and the carpenters' union in Hollywood.

In declaring that IATSE would not

(*Continued on page* 10)

Personal Mention

CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ, Loew's vice-president, has returned here from a Miami vacation.

•

RUTGERS NEILSON, RKO Radio publicity manager, has been elected to the "Fall Guy" committee of the Circus Saints and Sinners Club. He will also serve as a member of the board of governors of the organization.

•

J. R. SPRINGER, general theatre manager for Century Theatres, has been awarded a medal by the U. S. Treasury Department for his war bond activities.

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IRVING MAAS, Motion Picture Export Association vice-president and general manager, is due here today by plane from Europe.

•

WILLIAM HURWORTH, JR., Paramount International assistant manager in Sydney, Australia, is expected in New York today.

•

HARRY WARNER, who is visiting in the East, will attend the 57th running of the Preakness in Baltimore Saturday.

•

HOWARD STRICKLING, M-G-M studio publicity chief, will depart for the Coast from New York tomorrow.

•

TOM CONNORS, 20th Century-Fox distribution head, will leave New York for the Coast next week.

•

H. M. BESSEY, Altec vice-president, has arrived in New York after a week's visit to Atlanta.

$10,000,000 RKO Revolving Credit Set

RKO Radio has consummated arrangements for a new unsecured revolving credit of $10,000,000, predicated on a minimum working capital of $20,000,000, N. Peter Rathvon, president, announced here yesterday.

The credit will be participated in by the Bankers Trust Co. of New York, which will manage the fund, the First National Bank of Boston, and the Security-First National Bank of Los Angeles. The new financing, Rathvon said,—which will automatically cancel an existing credit agreement with Bankers Trust for $5,000,000 not due to expire until Dec. 22, 1948—provides for a scaling down of the fund by five per cent per year, beginning in the second year. Negotiations were conducted by William H. Clark, treasurer, and Gordon E. Youngman, general counsel, of RKO Radio.

The new financing permits the company to maintain a suitable inventory of produced but unreleased feature pictures which the management considers "necessary for orderly marketing, careful exploitation and maximum results from distribution," the statement said.

RCA Quarterly Net Up 48%: Sarnoff

Net profit of RCA for the first quarter of 1947 amounted to $4,680,065, representing an increase of $1,519,841, or 48 per cent, over the same period in 1946, David Sarnoff, president, disclosed here yesterday at the 28th annual stockholders meeting. Earnings per common share for the quarter amounted to 28 cents, against 17 cents for the same period in 1946, he announced.

Reviewing the history of the corporation, Sarnoff said that 457 persons were employed when operations began in 1919, while on May 1, 1947, RCA personnel numbered 40,600.

He said that during the past 10 years the net worth of the corporation increased by $39,000,000 and is now in excess of $100,000,000.

He reported progress in television on three fronts: research by RCA Laboratories, manufacturing by RCA Victor and telecasting by National Broadcasting. He said that the NBC station in Washington is expected to begin operations within a few weeks.

MGM's Maloney First For Month Stay Here

John J. Maloney, M-G-M Central sales manager with headquarters in Pittsburgh, will be the first field sales manager to spend a month at the home office and attend regular cabinet meetings under a new rotating plan for field sales executives, as announced by William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president. Maloney, in addition to his sales cabinet activities, will act in an advisory capacity to Rogers during his stay.

Maloney returned yesterday to his home territory after attending the company's sales conferences here. He will return Monday for his new assignment. Meanwhile, Frank C. Hensler, who has been named field assistant to Maloney, has returned to Detroit and will make a swing of his territory.

House Committee To Question Petrillo

WASHINGTON, May 6.—If the Supreme Court doesn't act on the Lea Act before it recesses in June, a hearing is expected to be held by a House subcommittee to investigate the abuses of James C. Petrillo and the American Federation of Musicians, it was indicated by Rep. Kearns, chairman of the House group.

Kearns said however, that he still expects the court to act before it recesses, adding, "We'll have Petrillo on the witness stand within a week after the court's decision."

UA, Roach Close Deal

Distribution deal with producer Hal Roach, authorized by United Artists' board two weeks ago, has been closed, the company announces. The pact calls for the delivery of six comedy features, in Cinecolor, for 1947-48 release.

Dalton Silent on U.K. Film Earnings

London, May 6.—Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer, declined to estimate the revenue from American exhibition of British pictures when questioned on the subject in the House of Commons today. However, he revealed that United States pictures shown in England received $68,000,000 annually.

Arthur Mayer Heads N.Y. Fund Drive

Arthur L. Mayer, operator of the Rialto, on Broadway, has been appointed chairman of the motion picture drive for the Greater New York Fund, which will open today, Frederick Warburg, campaign chairman, disclosed here yesterday.

Co-chairmen are Leonard Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp.; Leo Brecher, circuit operator; Gus Eyssell, president of Radio City Music Hall, and Sam Rinzler, head of Randforce Amusement.

A film on the functions of the Fund is being prepared by 20th Century-Fox and upon approval by the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Associations and others will be released through National Screen Service in the New York area. The Fund acts as a Community Chest for 423 New York hospitals, health and welfare agencies. Its goal is $6,000,000.

FWC Managers' Unit Seeks Recognition

LOS ANGELES, May 6.—Associated Theatre Operating Managers, Inc., composed of managers and assistant managers of Fox West Coast Theatres, which failed last year to secure National Labor Board recognition as bargaining agent, "will soon reapply for an NLRB hearing for certification as bargaining agent," union secretary James Moran declared. He has supplied the press with circulars which he said were distributed to 100,000 patrons of FWC Theatres, asserting managers' incomes had been reduced while pay scales in other branches of the industry had gone up. In a press release accompanying the circular, Moran said that managers incomes from candy and other concessions had been reduced 20 per cent.

New Grierson Series

"Wonder Eye," first in a new series of short subjects produced by John Grierson's World Today, will be released nationally on May 16 by United Artists. It was produced by Stuart Legg and directed by Guy Glover.

Miller Leaves Goldwyn

Llewellyn Miller is leaving Samuel Goldwyn's New York publicity office after completing a special advance job on "The Best Years of Our Lives." Miss Miller will vacation before announcing a new connection.

Newsreel Parade

MEXICO'S President Aleman's visit to the United States as well as the President of France's visit to Africa are newsreel highlights in current releases. Other items include the new Abbott and Costello Coast play center, and sports and fashions. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 72—[illegible] spots in the U. S. visit of President Aleman. President of France on tour. Russian wives wait to join British husbands. Tornado wrecks town in Northwest Missouri. Abbott and Costello open youth center in Los Angeles. Bathing fashions from Hollywood. Jet Pilot wins Kentucky Derby.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 270—Films of the Kentucky Derby. "Inside Moscow today." Aleman's triumphal tour. French president on tour. Lou Costello's youth center. Bonnets good enough to eat.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 73—Aleman sees the sights. Pilot lands in New York City traffic jam. Chicago says it with hats. French president tours Africa. Kentucky Derby: Jet Pilot wins in photo finish.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 75—France's president at Dakkar. Sumptuous club for Red Army. New York cheers President Aleman. Kentucky Derby.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 36—Aleman tours here. Abbott and Costello open play center. President of France visits Africa. Hats designed from sugar. Kentucky Derby.

Dore Schary Honored At Reception Here

Dore Schary, newly-elected vice-president in charge of RKO Radio's studios, was honor guest at a reception given by the company at the "21 Club" here yesterday. Trade press and newspaper representatives attended.

RKO Radio executives and others on hand included: N. Peter Rathvon, Ned Depinet, Phil Reisman, Paul Hollister, Gordon Youngman, Robert Mochrie, William Clark, James Mulvey, Harry Michaelson, Len S. Gruenberg, Robert Wolff, Jack Votion, M. G. Poller, A. A. Schubart, Perry Leiber, S. Barret McCormick, Rutgers Neilson, Harry Blair, Don Prince, Emerson Foote, Ralph Austrian, Phil Hodes, Harry Gittleson, Harry Mandel and Robert Hawkinson.

250 at Testimonial for S. E. Samuelson

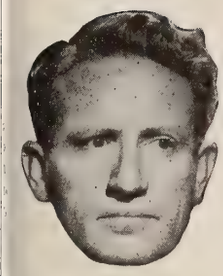
PHILADELPHIA, May 6.—Some 250 of the New Jersey, Western Pennsylvania, Eastern Pennsylvania and Baltimore Allied units and film company guests gathered at the Warwick Hotel, here, last night for a testimonial banquet in honor of Sidney E. Samuelson, general manager of Allied of Eastern Pennsylvania.

Samuelson, honored for his services to Allied, was presented with a gold watch and he and Mrs. Samuelson also were presented with an ocean cruise.

'Lost Honeymoon' Booked

Eagle Lion's "Lost Honeymoon," a comedy dealing with the adventures of an ex-GI, has been booked into Loew's State Theatre, here; the opening date will be announced shortly.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



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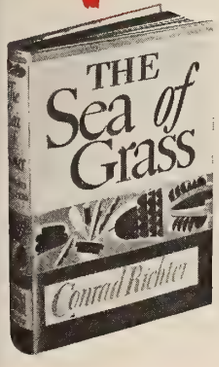
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Now they call it

THE SEA OF GROSS!

"It adds up to a terrific attraction wherever it plays!"



M-G-M presents SPENCER TRACY, KATHARINE HEPBURN, ROBERT WALKER, MELVYN DOUGLAS in "THE SEA OF GRASS" with Phyllis Thaxter, Edgar Buchanan, Harry Carey, Ruth Nelson, Robert Armstrong. Screen Play by Marguerite Roberts and Vincent Lawrence. Based on the Novel by Conrad Richter. Directed by ELIA KAZAN. Produced by PANDRO S. BERMAN.



Paramount Partner Meetings Start

ARROWHEAD SPRINGS, Cal., May 6.—Paramount home office executives and theatre partners from the field convened here today in the first of a series of meetings scheduled to last until Friday or possibly Saturday.

Discussions concern theatre operating problems under the Federal Court decree in the industry anti-trust suit, plus current theatre operating problems resulting from post-war conditions.

Scheduled to attend on Friday are Barney Balaban, president of Paramount; Henry Ginsberg, vice-president in charge of production, and Y. Frank Freeman, vice-president.

Besides Balaban, those who are attending the meetings from the home office are: Leonard Goldenson, Edward L. Hyman, Robert M. Weitman, Leon D. Netter, Hal Pereira, Evans Perkins, Eugene Street, Montague Gowthorpe, Max Fellerman, Curtis Mitchell and Robert Powers.

Theatre partners in attendance are: M. J. Mullin and Sam Pinanski, M. & P. Circuit, Boston; Sam Goldstein, Western Massachusetts Theatres, New Haven; Harry Royster, Netco Theatres Corp., Poughkeepsie; Frank Walker, Comerford Circuit, Scranton; Earl Hudson, United Detroit Theatres; John Balaban, Walter Immerman, Dave Wallerstein and Henry Spickelmeier, B. and K. and Great States Theatres, Chicago; Harry French and Charles Winchell, Minnesota Amusement Co., Minneapolis.

Also: A. H. Blank, Myron Blank and Ralph Branton, Tri-States and Central States Theatres of Iowa and Nebraska; M. A. Lightman, Malco Theatres, Memphis; E. V. Richards, Turk Carter, Gaston Dureau and A. H. Higgenbottom, Paramount-Richards, New Orleans; R. B. Wilby, H. F. Kincey, James Harrison, Roy Smart and Richard Kennedy, Wilby-Kincey Circuit, the Carolinas, Tennessee and Atlanta; Fred Kent, Florida States Theatres; Karl Hoblitzelle and R. J. O'Donnell, Interstate Theatres, Texas.

Also: Julius Gordon, Sam Landrom and S. L. Oakley, Jefferson Amusement Co., Beaumont, Tex,; Hunter Perry, Charlottesville, Va.; Harry Nace, Jr., Publix-Richards-Nace Theatres, Arizona; Tracy Barham and Ray Hendry, Intermountain Theatres, Salt Lake City; William Jenkins, Fred Storey and John Stembler, Lucas and Jenkins, Georgia; Jack Keegan, Northio Theatres, Ohio; John J. Fitzgibbons, Famous Players Canadian Corp., Canada, Ltd.

Paramount Meetings Start in the Field

First round of branch conferences to be held throughout the country in advance of Paramount's 1947 sales drive has begun with meetings in San Francisco, Los Angeles and Washington. George A. Smith, the company's Western division sales manager, will conduct the San Francisco parley today after having concluded a two-day Los Angeles meeting yesterday.

Earle W. Sweigert, Mideastern division sales manager, will wind up the two-day Washington meeting today. The 13-week "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership" sales contest will open nationally on Aug. 31.

Astor Starts Summer Rates on 'Best Years'

Summer prices became effective today for Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" at the Astor Theatre here. New summer prices begin at 95 cents with a top of $1.50 at peak evening hours on weekdays. On Saturdays and Sundays, the scale begins at 95 cents and runs to $1.80. Old prices began at 95 cents, with $1.50 charged at peak hours. On Saturdays and Sundays, the scale formerly went from $1.20 to $2.40. On Friday, the film will hit the Astor's long-run record for a picture shown on continuous policy, when it starts its 25th week.

Hope Theatres Will Show Air Force Film

WASHINGTON, May 6.—The Army Air Forces will try to interest exhibitors in its new air research and development film.

The film, produced by American film producers for the AAF, was accepted here over the weekend and AAF officials disclosed that they had asked the Office of Government Reports for clearance to show it to film companies and exhibitors. Main hopes for commercial showing, it was added, were that some newsreel theatre circuit would take the picture, which has a running time of 18 minutes.

AAF officials stated that plans have been made for three more general information films and that they will take their requests to the Signal Corps in the near future.

Bill Would Legalize U. S. Film Division

WASHINGTON, May 6.—Rep. Mundt today introduced a bill to give statutory authority to the State Department's overseas information program, including its international motion picture division.

One of the main arguments used by the House Appropriations Committee in denying funds for the program was that it had no specific authority in law for existence.

The Mundt Bill is given at best a 50-50 chance of passage.

Ramsaye Article on Films in Year Book

An article on motion pictures has been written by Terry Ramsaye, editor of *Motion Picture Herald,* for the "New International 1947 Year Book," a 750-page annual published this week by Funk and Wagnalls.

The book is edited by Charles Earle Funk, and among other contributors are: J. Edgar Hoover, head of the FBI; Niles Trammell, president of NBC, and Vernon Rice, drama editor of the *New York Post.*

Tribute to Industry

HOLLYWOOD, May 6.—A tribute to the industry for its efforts in advancing the cause of literacy in Latin-American countries was voiced by Viriato Comacho, Costa Rica's assistant secretary of state in charge of education, during a visit to the Warner Brothers Studio.

Coast ITO Speaker Backs Divorcement

LOS ANGELES, May 6.—Dr. J. B. Fishman, president of Allied Theatres of Connecticut, asserted that "monopoly exists in production" and that "divorcement is the solution" with "playing time open in all theatres to all producers," at the opening session of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners which was convened at the Ambassador Hotel here.

Thomas J. Severson, Montana Theatres Association president, declared that "we are tired of paying through our noses for product and intend doing something about it," while Sam Gillette, president of Intermountain Theatres Association, said "theatre owners must organize for protection."

In his keynote address, Robert H. Poole, PCCITO executive secretary, stated that "film rentals will be dealt with, definitely, at this convention, along with other practices that are detrimental to independent exhibitors."

In an address at the afternoon session, Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, said that the motion picture industry, like all others, must face the fact that the period of peak business is past. He called for reduced costs in production and distribution and added that exhibitors must join in urging authorities to increase foreign exhibition of U. S. product.

Indiana ATO Hits U-I Films for Purdue

INDIANAPOLIS, May 6.—Protesting against the licensing of product by Universal-International to Purdue University, the board of directors of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana today asserted that U-I's action places an institution which is supported by public funds in direct competition with the people who pay taxes to support it. The board also endorsed Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston's plan to explore the possibilities of using the screen to bring about a better understanding of the industry and how it operates.

A. C. Zaring, veteran Indianapolis exhibitor who retired from active business recently, was given a lifetime honorary membership on the board of directors.

'Nais' Premiere

Marcel Pagnol's "Nais," starring Fernandel, will have its world premiere at the Las Palmas Theatre, Los Angeles, tomorrow, under the auspices of the French Consulate of Los Angeles. Proceeds from the engagement of "Nais," which is being released in this country by Siritzky-International, will go to French charities.

RCA Appoints Hucke

CAMDEN, May 6. — Herbert M. Hucke has been appointed sales manager of the newly-consolidated communications and specialty section of Radio Corp. of America.

Set "Duel" Openings

LOS ANGELES, May 6. — David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" will open simultaneously in 24 greater Los Angeles theatres tomorrow at $1 daytime and $1.25 evening admission prices.

Warner Building Program Progresses

The third new Warner exchange building to be opened this year, a Minneapolis branch, is expected to be ready late in July. Newly-built quarters already have been occupied in New Haven and Philadelphia.

Herman Goldberg, supervisor of maintenance and purchasing agent for Warner exchanges, left yesterday for a tour of branches at Oklahoma City, Dallas, Omaha, Des Moines, Minneapolis and Chicago.

Warns of Conditions In Commercial Field

American commercial films are at a dangerous crossroad, Phillips B. Nichols, RKO Pathe commercial department sales manager, states here. Chaotic conditions in distribution endanger both the progress and prestige of industrial film production, according to Nichols, and have brought about a crisis which the industry cannot afford to ignore. Nichols calls for immediate distribution programming as a primary requisite in the expanding field.

"What commercials need," he said, "is a coordinating association to put them into every projector available, just as theatrical picture distribution sees a film through from world premiere to the last grind run."

India's Film Role Cited by Skouras

Citing the motion picture as important to permanent peace by way of creating mutual understanding among nations, Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, last night presented a plaque to Vijay Bhatt, producer-director of India, for his contributions to Indo-American cultural ties. Skouras made the presentation in behalf of the India Society of America at a banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here.

Francis Harmon, New York vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, spoke of the American industry's interests in Indian affairs and of the desire to present U. S. product to audiences of that country.

A preview showing of Bhatt's newest picture, "Ram Rajya," will be held at the Museum of Modern Art here today.

Skouras, Truman Chat

WASHINGTON, May 6.—Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, spent a half hour with President Truman this afternoon. Skouras, who returned to New York after the visit, discussed his recent trip to South America.

Oregon Theatre Burns

DETROIT, ORE., May 6. — In a fire which burned half of the town, the Detroit Theatre, newly opened, was completely destroyed, with a loss of $50,000, according to Fred S. Wilson, manager.

today

is



day

a great day in
motion picture
history

Manhattan

Capitol
Commodore
Delancey
83rd Street
Lexington
Olympia
Orpheum
175th St.
72nd St.
Sheridan
Victoria
Inwood

Bronx

American
Boulevard
Fairmount
National
167th Street
Paradise
Post Road

Brooklyn

Alpine
Bedford
Pitkin
Gates
Kings
Oriental
46th Street
Metropolitan
Coney Island

Long Island

Plaza
Triboro
Valencia
Woodside
Prospect



OL.

DAVID O. SELZNICK'S

DUEL in the SUN

IN TECHNICOLOR

Directed by KING VIDOR

will begin its unprecedented engagement at the Capitol and 49 other theatres in City and Suburban New York. There will be approximately 230 performances of this picture each day and 563,000 seats available daily to the vast audience that Audience Research Institute (highest "want-to-see" of any unreleased picture yet surveyed) predicts awaits this picture.

New Jersey

Loew's Jersey City
State, Newark
Traco, Tom's River
St. James, Asbury Park
Strand, Perth Amboy

Opening
May 8th
Rivoli, New Brunswick
Strand, Freehold
Strand, Long Branch
Strand, Red Bank

Opening
May 11th
Palace, Flemington
Newton, Newton
Gem, Frenchtown
St. Cloud, Washington

Westchester

Loew's New Rochelle
Mount Vernon
Loew's White Plains
Loew's Yonkers

Connecticut

Plaza, Stamford
Loew's, Bridgeport

Upstate New York

Broadway, Kingston

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

PHILADELPHIA

"The Best Years of Our Lives," in its fifth week at two locations, and "Homestretch," in its first week at the Fox, are the box-office leaders here. Business in general at other houses is somewhat below average. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 6-8:

LOVE LAUGHS AT ANDY HARDY (M-G-M)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 1st week. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $13,800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ARCADIA (900) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 5th week. Gross: $16,800. (Average at regular prices of 50c-94c: $6,600)

SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—BOYD (3,000) (60c-70c-84c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $21,600. (Average: $21,000)

CALENDAR GIRL (Rep.)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c). With vaudeville starring Charles Spivak. 6 days. Gross: $21,500. LOVE AND LEARN (WB) 1 day. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $31,700)

HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 1st week. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $25,000)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $24,000)

BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,200)

STALLION ROAD (WB)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 1st week, 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,200)

LOVE AND LEARN (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 1st week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $29,500)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PIX (500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 5th week. Gross: $13,800. (Average at advanced prices: $10,000)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $24,800. (Average: $27,000)

ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $12,700)

INDIANAPOLIS

First-run grosses are large, but are unevenly distributed this week. The box-office leader is "The Best Years of Our Lives," with a huge $18,000 in its opening week at Keith's. "Easy Come, Easy Go," is well above average at the Circle, and "The Egg and I," moved over from Keith's to the Lyric for a fifth week, continues as a strong drawing card. Weather has been rainy for the most part. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 7-8:

EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (48c-72c) 1st week. With Frankie Carle band on stage. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $18,500)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c) 1st week. Gross: $11,500. Average: $15,200)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—KEITH'S (1,300) (Advanced admission prices: 74c-$1.20) 1st week. Gross: $18,000. (Average at regular admission prices of 40c-60c: $6,500)

JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.) and CIGARETTE GIRL (Col.)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c) 1st week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,800)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c) 5th week, on a moveover from Keith's. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,700)

BUFFALO

"The Yearling," in its first week at the Great Lakes, leads the field in a generally good box-office week. "Framed" and "The Farmer's Daughter," also in opening weeks, are doing above-average business. Weather has been springlike. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 10:

THE IMPERFECT LADY (Para.) and PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE (PRC)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 1st week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M) — GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 1st week. Gross: $23,400. (Average: $18,000)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.) and EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $8,900. (Average: $10,000)

FRAMED (Col.) and MILLIE'S DAUGHTER (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 1st week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000)

PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY (Rep.) and THAT BRENNAN GIRL (Rep.)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 1st week. Gross: $4,700. (Average: $6,000)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 1st week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,000)

Exhibitors* are switching to "REPEAT PERFORMANCE" because "REPEAT PERFORMANCE" means repeat business.

*Names on request from EAGLE-LION FILMS

ARI Says 37-Million Will See 'Best Years'

Approximately 37,000,000 will see Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives," according to Dr. George Gallup's Audience Research. Prior to the announcement of the Academy Awards, a potential audience of 32,000,000 to 33,000,000 was indicated by ARI here yesterday.

This marks one of the highest audience totals ever forecast for a picture, and is based on continuing studies of theatregoers by ARI for the past year and a half.

Albany Salesmen Meet

ALBANY, N. Y., May 6.—A meeting was held here to discuss the organization of an Albany chapter of the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen. In attendance were A. M. Van Dyke, Chicago, national president, and N. E. Provencher, Milwaukee, secretary.

Wage Negotiations Today at Warners

Negotiators for Warner Brothers and the Motion Picture Home Office Employes Union, Local No. H-63, IATSE, are expected to meet here today to discuss wages for more than 600 home office employes.

A union spokesman said that negotiations are being carried on under a wage re-opening clause of the present two-year contract, which expires next May. The union seeks a flat 20 per cent increase.

Meanwhile, negotiations will be resumed tomorrow for office employes of M-G-M's News-of-the-Day.

Foreign Screen Gets Six More U. K. Films

Foreign Screen Corp. will distribute in Latin America a second group of six British films in as many months, acquired from Anglo-American, as follows: "Murder in Reverse," "Lisbon Story," "Spring Song," "Latin Quarter," "Woman to Woman" and "Appointment with Crime."

All will be released simultaneously, according to H. Alban-Mestanza, FSC president, whose first group of six British productions were from Pathe of London. Additionally, the company has acquired a number of British reissues.

Jack Benny Radio Show at Roxy May 23

Jack Benny, Phil Harris, Rochester and the Sportsmen's Quartet, all from Benny's radio show, will make personal appearances at the Roxy Theatre, beginning May 23. Appearing with them will be Marjorie Reynolds, star of "Holiday Inn," "Dixie," and the forthcoming "Heaven Only Knows."

The limited 12-day engagement will end on Tuesday, June 3.

Handy Theatre to Open

MEMPHIS, May 6.—W. C. Handy, composer of "St. Louis Blues" and "Memphis Blues," is scheduled to make a personal appearance here at the opening on Sunday of the W. C. Handy Theatre, 1,100-seat all-Negro house, just finished in Memphis. The theatre, which cost $200,000, is named in honor of Handy, a former Memphian, who now resides in New York.

WB Zone Heads Meet

Harry Goldberg, director of advertising-publicity for Warner Theatres, conducted a meeting of several zone advertising heads at the home office yesterday. Among those attending were Charles A. Smakwitz, Albany zone; Dan Finn, New Haven; Everett Callow, Philadelphia; George Kelly, Newark.

'Carmen' with Spurs

HOLLYWOOD, May 6. — Producer Harry Sherman has announced "Carmen of the West" as his high-budget Technicolor production for 1948 with the original "Carmen" story transplanted to the American West. Stars from concert and opera will sing the leads.

Rank Appoints St. John

LONDON, May 6. — Earl St. John, an American, who has been theatre controller for the J. Arthur Rank Organization, here, has been appointed a member of the Two Cities board in charge of production.

US-UK Control Unit Set Up in Germany

WASHINGTON, May 6.—An agreement has been reached to establish a joint British-American film production control board, according to information received here from War Department officials in Berlin. A film forwarding company will be established to operate in both zones.

Most important point discussed with representatives of the British Information Control Film Section was the conservation of raw stock.

Import Restrictions Clarified by Sweden

WASHINGTON, May 6.—Sweden has further clarified the status of articles on order or en route there when import restrictions were imposed last March 15, the State Department announced.

Licenses will be granted, the Department says, for articles placed under restrictions, provided that a bona fide contract contemplating delivery prior to October 1, had been entered into on or before March 15 and, secondly that the goods will be delivered before October 1. In cases of contracts placed on or before March 15, calling for periodic deliveries favorable consideration will be given only to that part calling for deliveries prior to October 1. One loophole left open by Sweden provides that license applications for delivery after October 1 will be given favorable consideration if production had started before March 15 and the product cannot be sold to buyers in other countries.

Hear Beeston Quits

TORONTO, May 6.—A report in Toronto film circles tells of the resignation of George H. Beeston as a member of the board of directors and treasurer of Odeon Theatres of Canada. A veteran film official here, Beeston was a brother-in-law of T. J. Bragg who was an Odeon director until his death a year ago. There has been no confirmation or denial of the story.



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Korda Proposals on Quota Explained

"Sir Alexander Korda, as one of the members of the British Film Producers Association, is wholly in favor of the quota proposals of that association, just as I am myself, and every member of the Association," J. Arthur Rank says in a statement appearing in the London press today, according to the New York office of Korda's London Film Productions. It is explained in the statement that it might appear from reports that Korda is advocating "extreme proposals beyond anything which the British Film Producers Association had recommended to the Board of Trade." The statement continued that "the position, however, is entirely different."

Appearing simultaneously is a statement from Korda in which he says, "I am glad that Mr. Rank in his forthright statement made the position clear. . . ." Korda went on to say, "I do not think that as far as proposals for the future quota legislation are concerned, either the full praise or the full blame is due me. I am only one of the members of the British Film Producers Asociation, and all of us think alike in this matter, as Rank so clearly stated."

Bernstein Due Here On Finance Deal

Sidney L. Bernstein, associated with Alfred Hitchcock in the formation and management of Transatlantic Pictures, will arrive here by plane from England on Saturday. Both will meet in New York with officials of Bankers Trust on financing the first two Transatlantic films, "The Rope" and "Under Capricorn," on a top-budget basis, both to be directed by Hitchcock.

Bernstein will remain here to negotiate a deal with a major distribution company for release of all Transatlantic product whether directed by Hitchcock or other directors.

Trust Appeal Moves

(*Continued from page* 1)

York court. It is understood, for example, that Columbia, United Artists and Universal will further their arguments against the necessity of competitive bidding, charging that this film licensing method is illegal.

The parties will have 15 days after the docketing of the New York record of the case by the Supreme Court during which they can serve the new papers to the high court and to each other. The record and all relating documents already have been sent to Washington and probably will be docketed this week.

Meanwhile, the eight distributor defendants have called a meeting for today for the purpose of designating in mutual agreement which part of the New York record and which exhibits are to be printed for the Supreme Court.

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Program for Rank

(*Continued from page* 1)

by the Worlds' Sunday School Association, of which he is an international official, at the Hotel Commodore. His Friday schedule also includes a meeting of the board of the U.S. J. Arthur Rank Organization, Inc., of which he is chairman of the board, and Robert S. Benjamin is president.

On Saturday, Rank and Davis will meet officials of Universal to discuss future plans. On Sunday he will be the guest at the country home of Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox Films.

Monday, Rank will spend virtually the entire day with Universal, being the guest of its board at a private luncheon to be given at the Metropolitan Club. In the afternoon, he will attend a meeting of the Universal board, of which he is a member. Monday evening, Rank and Davis will be guests of Eric Johnston and the board of the Motion Picture Association at a dinner to be given at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here.

Tuesday, Arthur Krim, president, and A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president of Eagle-Lion Films, will confer with Rank and Davis, who will also attend a meeting of the board of Pathe Industries, controlled by the Robert R. Young interests. On Tuesday, also, Guy Eyssell, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall, will be host to the party at a luncheon at the theatre, where the Rank film, "Great Expectations," will play at the conclusion of the present run of "The Egg and I."

After meetings on Wednesday, Rank and Mrs. Rank, and Davis and Mrs. Davis will entrain for Chicago, where they will spend two days conferring with J. H. McNabb, head of Bell and Howell, and with A. N. Rauland of television.

The party is due in Toronto on Saturday, May 17, where meetings will be held with officials of the Rank interests there, headed by J. Earl Lawson, president of the Odeon Circuit of Canada and general representative of Rank activities in that country.

The party will leave Toronto on Wednesday, May 21, for a trip by train across Canada to Vancouver, where Davis will leave to return.

Rank and Mrs. Rank will then proceed to Los Angeles, to visit their daughter, Mrs. Fred M. Packard, and to see their new granddaughter. They will remain in California, on holiday, until their return to England on the *Queen Elizabeth* on July 17.

Krim En Route Here to Meet J. Arthur Rank

HOLLYWOOD, May 6.— Arthur B. Krim, president of Eagle-Lion Films, left here today by plane for New York to meet J. Arthur Rank on the latter's arrival on Friday from London. Krim will return to Hollywood with Rank and Nate Blumberg, president of Universal, and Robert Young of Pathe Industries.

Law, Rank Equipment Aide, Here from London

Tom A. Law, film equipment official with the J. Arthur Rank enterprises, is here from London for conferences with Rank U. S. affiliates and meetings with American acoustical and technical engineers. He will leave here on Monday for Toronto and subsequently Chicago where he will visit the Bell and Howell plant.

Gregg Off Tomorrow On Round-World Trip

Eugene S. Gregg, vice-president of Westrex Corp., foreign motion picture equipment subsidiary of Western Electric, will leave New York for England tomorrow on the *SS America*, on the first leg of a three-month round-the-world trip.

Gregg will confer with local representatives at WE offices in London, Basle, Paris, Cairo, Bombay, Calcutta, Rangoon, Singapore, Sidney and Wellington, N. Z., returning to this country by way of Hollywood about Aug. 15. Gregg will also attend the annual meeting of the International Chamber of Commerce in Switzerland as delegate.

Walsh Rejects

(*Continued from page* 1)

abide by the "clarification" issued by Green, Walsh referred to an inner-union arbitration decision of Dec., 1945, which, in turn, hinged upon a 1926 agreement between the two unions. Meanwhile, Walsh said he would attend a May 13 meeting in Washington called by Green to discuss the controversy.

The "clarification" granted jurisdiction over the "assemblage" of sets to IATSE and over "construction" of sets to the carpenters. A spokesman for Walsh pointed out that "construction" would constitute the major work, and thus would remove such jurisdiction from IATSE.

The spokesman said the 1926 agreement gave "set erection" to IATSE, and that three AFL vice-presidents, sitting as an arbitration board in Dec., 1945, declared the 1926 agreement should be followed. In the summer of 1946, the carpenters' union, according to the "IA" spokesman, issued its own interpretation of the Dec., 1945, arbitration, and allegedly changed the meaning of the original arbitration.

AFL Washington Meeting

The May 13 meeting called by William Green, AFL president, on Hollywood's studio strike, will be held in the executive board room of the AFL Building in Washington. Due to a typographical error, it was indicated in these columns yesterday that the meeting of the 12 studio leaders would be held in New York.

No British Curbs

(*Continued from page* 1)

that the British industry made only 40 pictures last year, and that the British public welcomes all good films, foreign or otherwise.

He said that Marcel Hellman will continue to make British films for the company, and that Hellman will soon begin production on "Sabina" and "This Was a Woman."

Pattinson, who explained that his visit was "purely a pleasure trip," will leave with his wife for London on Saturday on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*.

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, and Murray Silverstone, president of 20th Century-Fox International, will be hosts at a dinner to be given tonight in the St. Moritz Hotel, in honor of Pattinson.

Rank at 'U-I' Meet

J. Arthur Rank, now en route to New York from England, will attend the next board meeting of Universal-International, of which he is a director.

French Film Pact

(*Continued from page* 1)

30, 1947, will total well over $5,000,000, based on the current exchange rate of 119 francs to the dollar.

The State Department's reply to the original French request, was that it was necessary first to observe the French market possibilities under the new accord. The French repeated their request, however, late last year, pointing out that the transfer of accumulated film earnings would weigh so heavily on its balance of payments situation at this time that agreement was necessary. The Department then consulted the film companies and agreed to discuss this matter and the question of blocked remittances.

It was understood that the remittance question has been under informal discussion for some time between the Embassy and the French authorities, but that no agreement could be reached because of disagreement on the rate of exchange.

American film companies have been demanding payment at the rate of exchange current when their applications for remittances were filed, bringing American claims to almost $12,000,000. The French, however, want to base the settlement on the exchange rate current July 1, 1946, cutting these claims to slightly less than $7,000,000.

In December, 1946, the French approved a token payment of 25 per cent of the blocked balances of each American company at the 119 francs to the dollar rate. Several American companies, however, refused to accept this offer.

17 Elected to MPF Atlanta Committee

ATLANTA, May 6.—Some 125 representatives of the industry in Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Tennessee, meeting here to organize the Atlanta exchange area's permanent Motion Picture Foundation Committee, have elected 17 to the committee which, at a later date, will elect a chairman and trustee. William K. Jenkins, president of Georgia Theatre Co., presided at the meeting.

Committeemen elected to two-year terms were: Jenkins, R. B. Wilby, E. D. Martin, O. C. Lam, Nat Williams, Frank Rogers, Charles Lester and Mitchell Wolfson. Elected to one-year terms were: John W. Mangham, Lex Benton, Kermit Stengel, J. H. Thompson, Mack Jackson, Herman Steinichen, Jack Kirby, N. A. Waters and Ike Katz.

Balaban on UJA Tour

(*Continued from page* 1)

Louis; co-chairmen of the campaign in San Francisco are Joseph Blumenfeld, A. Blumenfeld, Irving Levin, Ben Levin and Sol Lesser.

Balaban will be accompanied by Peter Colwin, national director of trades and industry of the UJA, and Sam Shain of 20th Century-Fox.

Four UA Pictures in NY

United Artists will have four pictures in five New York houses, with the arrival on May 14 of Enterprise's "The Other Love" at the Rivoli Theatre. The others are: "The Macomber Affair," at the Globe; "Monsieur Verdoux," at the Broadway, and "Carnegie Hall" at the Winter Garden and Park Avenue.

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Mames . . . in Today's News

JEAN HERSHOLT has been re-elected president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Hollywood.

Elected were: Charles Brackett first vice-president Farciot Edouart, second; George Murphy, third; William Wyler, fourth; Mary McCall, Jr., secretary; Delmer Daves, assistant secretary; Donald Nelson, treasurer, and Frederick B. Richards, assistant secretary. Hersholt will ask Jack L. Warner to serve again as finance committee chairman.

At the request of MPA's Eric Johnston, the board appointed Hersholt, Nelson and Walter Wanger as a committee to cooperate with a three-man MPA committee on matters in which the Academy and the MPA are mutually interested, presumably including the Research Council, which the MPA recently took over from the Academy.

Howard Brookings Reelected Head of Iowa-Neb. Allied

OMAHA, May 7.—Howard Brookings of Avoca, Ia., has been reelected president of the Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska; all other officers were also reelected, including Leo F. Wolcott, Eldora, Ia., chairman of the board; George March, Vermillion, S. D., vice-president; Tim Evans, Clinton, Ia., executive secretary, and Mel Kruse, Pierce, Neb., assistant secretary. Elections were held here yesterday on the final day of the organization's convention at which Brookings said the membership is expected to rise from its present 200 to 400 within a year.

Thompson, Cahoon and Salzburg Join SRO

R. R. (Tommy) Thompson, with Universal in Kansas City for 14 years, has been appointed sales manager for the Selznick Releasing Organization in that city, and with the appointment of Howard E. Cahoon in Salt Lake City, and Ed Salzburg in Cincinnati, SRO's field sales staff has been rounded out by Milton Kusell, general sales manager.

Frank Farley Named Head Of Paramount British Prod.

Frank Farley, Paramount's general European story, talent and studio representative, has been appointed managing director and chairman of the board of Paramount British Productions, Ltd., British production subsidiary, the home office discloses here. Farley's new duties will be in addition to those he has handled heretofore. He will continue to make his

(*Continued on page 6*)

Para. Earns $9,522,000

Paramount Pictures estimates net earnings for the first 1947 quarter, ended April 5, at $9,522,000, after all charges, including estimated provision for income taxes. This includes $1,700,000 representing Paramount's direct and indirect net interest as a stockholder in the combined undistributed earnings for the quarter of partially owned non-consolidated subsidiaries. Earnings for the quarter ended March 30, 1946, were estimated at $11,587,000, including a $3,086,000 share of undistributed earnings of partially owned non-consolidated subsidiaries.

The $9,522,000 represents $1.30 per share on 7,303,972 shares outstanding on April 5, which compares with $1.54 per share for the quarter ended March 30, 1946, on 7,504,272 shares, which represented 3,752,136 shares then outstanding and adjusted for the two-for-one stock split in July, 1946.

The board of directors of Paramount yesterday declared a regular quarterly dividend of 50 cents per share on the common stock, payable June 27 to stockholders of record on June 6.

Warns of 'Pitfalls' In Decree Bidding

Possible pitfalls in the opportunity for better runs afforded exhibitors by way of distributors' new policies of some competitive bidding and consideration of run demands are seen by Willard S. McKay, attorney for Schine Theatres, in observing changing industry sales operations because of the New York Federal Court's anti-trust decision.

McKay referred particularly to over-bidding, adding that while some exhibitors will soon realize the profitless consequences of this, others will be stubborn enough to press their efforts to obtain runs which they can-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Grant Approval for Six New Theatres

WASHINGTON, May 7.—Six more applications for the construction of new theatres have been approved by the Civilian Production Administration.

Projects approved were submitted by Charles Abel, agent for Ammar Brothers, Miami; Carl E. Anderson, Kalispell, Mont.; William C. Buck, Rising Sun, Md.; R. V. Keeney, Urbandale, Ia.; R. C. Cobb, Jr., Fayette, Ala.; D. C. Foxley, Pilot Rock, Ore.

Loew's Sets Deal For 1600 Broadway

Loew's, Inc., has concluded negotiations for purchase of the 1600 Broadway (Mecca) Building at 48th Street which now houses numerous film and theatre companies, it was learned yesterday. Purchase price was not disclosed. The building will be used to house the new M-G-M Records Co. and other Loew activities for which there is insufficient space in the Loew Building.

Owner of 1600 Broadway is the Central Hanover Trust Co. Spokesmen yesterday said a sales contract had been drawn but might not be signed for several weeks. All leases in the building expired May 1 and were not renewed.

UJA Donations Up 50-125%: Balaban

Donations to the United Jewish Appeal are ranging from 50 to 125 per cent over those of last year, Barney Balaban, national chairman of the film division, reported at the Hotel Astor here yesterday at a fund-raising luncheon-meeting of leaders of the film and legitimate theatre fields.

Billy Rose was chairman. Other speakers included Edward N. N. Warburg, co-chairman with Balaban for UJA in Greater New York; Richard Rodgers, producer-composer; Dore Schary, RKO Radio executive producer. The urgency of the drive was strongly expressed by all speakers.

Screened at the luncheon was a fund-raising short subject, "We Must Not Forget," featuring Eddie Cantor and produced by Schary. Approximately 100 guests attended and made contributions.

Balaban left last night for UJA meetings in St. Louis, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Film Liaison In Coordinating Plans

Current plans developing for setting up a permanent New York City coordinator of industry filming activities here, also will include a recommendation that an industry representative be designated by the Motion Picture Association to serve as liaison between the producers and the co-ordinator to represent the various city departments, it is disclosed by Sal Scoppa, of IATSE, member of the industry com-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Urges PCCITO To Seek 20% Tax Decline

MPTOA Spokesman Hits Delay on Film Forum

LOS ANGELES, May 7.—Asserting that the 20 per cent Federal admission tax is a burden unfairly borne by exhibitors, Morris Lowenstein, representing the Motion Picture Thea-

Washington, May 7.—The House Ways and Means Committee will start extensive hearings on May 19 on the overall tax situation, laying the groundwork for introducing a bill in 1948. There is a possibility of a "quickie" bill cutting some excise taxes in this session, but an admission tax cut is likely to wait on the over-all bill.

tre Owners of America, yesterday urged the convention of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners to exercise a concerted effort to obtain modification of the tax.

(*Continued on page 6*)

'Streamlining' MGM Branch Operations

M-G-M will hold two operational consent decree "streamlining" meetings of office managers in the field, the first to take place in Cincinnati at the Netherlands Plaza Hotel and the second in Denver at a hotel yet to be selected. Each will last three days, the Cincinnati sessions staring May 21

(*Continued on page 6*)

Eric Johnston Cites Variety Club's Work

Hollywood, May 7.—On the eve of the opening of the annual convention of International Variety Clubs, here, next Tuesday, Eric Johnston, MPA president, today saluted the organization for devoting themselves wholeheartedly to a multitude of charities, "asking nothing but a chance to serve good causes, and bringing a greater measure of happiness to the under-privileged, distressed and unfortunate."

Personal Mention

JOSEPH BERNHARD, Film Classics president, will leave here today for Coast conferences.

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JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic distribution chief, will fly to the Coast this weekend, where he will attend the national Variety Club dinner, and then go by plane to Mexico City for five days, heading back to New York by way of New Orleans.

•

BERNARD GOODWIN, vice-president of Famous and Paramount Music and secretary of Allen B. Dumont Laboratories, has returned here from the Coast. EDWARD WOLPIN, general manager of the two music companies, accompanied him here.

•

GERALDINE FITZGERALD and WENDELL COREY, who will appear in Hal Wallis' "So Evil, My Love," to be filmed in England, are due here from the Coast. Miss Fitzgerald will sail on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* May 23.

•

JULES LEVEY, United Artists producer, has been cited by the National Jewish Recognition Committee for his welfare activities in New York and Los Angeles.

•

JACKIE COOGAN and his wife sailed on the *SS Mauretania* for a 10-week stay in England where he will do a personal appearance stint.

•

JOSEPH J. DEITCH, Paramount Theatres Service executive, has left Polyclinic Hospital, New York, and is convalescing at home.

•

LOREN L. RYDER, Paramount studio sound department head and president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, has left here for the Coast.

•

MRS. NED E. DEPINET is convalescing from an operation at the Lenox Hill Hospital here.

•

FRED PERRY, manager of the Liberty Theatre, Cumberland, Md., is in town for two weeks.

•

CHARLES SCHWARTZ, United Artists board member, is back in New York from the Coast.

•

M. A. LIGHTMAN, Malco circuit president, is vacationing in Hollywood, Fla., from Memphis, Tenn.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warner general sales chief, is expected in Dallas next on his Southwest tour.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, has returned to New York from Omaha.

Gamble Buys Another

PORTLAND, Ore., May 7.—Acquisition of the Circle Theatre, here, has been announced by Ted Gamble of Gamble Theatre Enterprises. The house, which was under the ownership of G. T. Woodlaw, will be remodeled for Gamble's circuit.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

OFF the grapevine comes the reliable report Si Fabian, head of the circuit bearing his name and president of American Theatres Association, has been offered an enticing plan under which he would become one-third owner of United Artists if he will accept the presidency of that company. The interest would develop out of what once was stock held in the name of David O. Selznick and thereafter returned to the company's treasury when David, Mary Pickford and Charlie Chaplin bid one another a fond adieu.

By the nature of the proposal, it seems clearly enough indicated Mary and Charlie are more eager for Fabian now than ever they have been for Gus Eyssell, managing director of the Music Hall, and Abe Schneider, treasurer of Columbia. Fabian's friends, however, are understood to be urging that he reject the presidency unless he gets management with it. There could be quite a rub on that score.

■

While this proceeds toward a conclusion which no one—and least of all us—cares to predict, the status of Arthur W. Kelly remains in limbo. Chaplin reputedly is insisting Kelly return as executive vice-president. Miss Pickford reputedly opposes this, but is now willing to accept Kelly as an active executive in operations. Her objection on the executive vice-presidency reputedly revolves around her conviction, once this is done, that it may be quite a spell before UA acquires a president. And she feels a topmost executive officer is required in the best interests of the corporation.

■ ■

Curbing excitement and enthusiasm at Universal over the staying power of "The Egg and I" is a fruitless enterprise. The figures on key city runs, on the other hand, make it more understandable why they get that way. Here's a sampling:

The Fox, Detroit: $48,000, first week; $29,000, second; $25,000, third; $18,500 fourth [six days] comparing with "The Dark Mirror" at $29,000; $18,000; and $9,000 [no fourth week]. The Uptown, Esquire and Fairway, Kansas City: $27,000, first week; $22,500, second; $17,500, third; $10,000, fourth. First week of "Canyon Passage" in those houses was $20,000; second, $12,000.

Toronto was sweet, too. At the Uptown: $22,000, first week; $18,500, second; $15,500, third; $12,500, fourth; $11,000, fifth. "Canyon Passage": $16,000; $10,500; $9,000; $2,000 [no fifth week]. The Ritz, UA, Bruin, Isis, Studio City and Carthay Circle in Greater Los Angeles: $86,000, first week; $62,500, second; $59,000, third; $40,000, fourth. With $35,000 at the Orpheum, San Francisco, "The Egg and I" set a new opening week record. "Canyon Passage" did $30,500 there, and "Dark Mirror," $24,000.

There are others, but this sampling ought to do.

■ ■

After eight successful weeks at the Music Hall, the complete cycle of Loew houses in Greater New York and the subsequents thereafter, "The Jolson Story" is polishing off its first week of a return date at the Victoria. More are in line, many more. Si Fabian, who saw previous highs fall at the Fox, Brooklyn, intends replaying the attraction. The Loew circuit likewise contemplates a come-back with it. Columbia is actively engaged on the same subsequents, after Loew's, which ran the film originally and is seeking to establish a pattern like the one shaping for New York in other cities.

"The Jolson Story" has done a fabulous business in its relatively short release life. Already one of the very big ones of the season, Columbia executives find themselves involved in the pleasantly exciting business of recasting the dopesheet on final domestic gross. Estimates, drawn off the gross so far? Plenty of them. The trouble, which all distributors would welcome, is the trouble of constantly revamping the figures upward.

■ ■

Mailbag from Nat Liebeskind: "We Americans pride ourselves on our democracy. That's why I don't understand those who pick on Charlie Chaplin, whom I've never met, by the way, because he has never become a citizen. Those who charge Argentina with being a Fascist country might be interested to know that I have lived and earned my livelihood there for ten years. Never in that whole period has anyone asked me why I hadn't become a citizen of that country."

$1,750,000 to Ads on 3 Enterprise Films

An advertising budget of $1,750,000 has been set for three Enterprise productions, Robert S. Taplinger, vice-president, announces. The pictures and appropriations are as follows: "Arch of Triumph," $900,000; "The Other Love," $400,000, and "Body and Soul," $450,000.

Conferences in New York between Einfeld, Loew, distribution chief George Schaefer, executives of Donahue and Coe, United Artists and Taplinger, have established a policy of five-way distribution of the funds for each picture among trade papers, magazines, newspapers and radio, with $75,000 budgeted for institutional advertising.

Former Government Aide To Confer With Taplinger

WASHINGTON, May 7.—Frederick N. Polangin will arrive in New York today to confer with Robert S. Taplinger, Enterprise vice-president in charge of publicity and advertising. A former Washington newspaperman, Polangin was director of publicity for the Department of Commerce under Harry Hopkins and was stationed in Hollywood for some time with the OWI during the war.

Industry Under Siege, Ramsaye Declares

PHILADELPHIA, May 7.—The motion picture industry is surrounded by pressure groups and movements seeking to plant messages, Terry Ramsaye, editor of *Motion Picture Herald*, told the Philadelphia Motion Picture Preview group today at its first postwar luncheon.

"Despite the oceans of external advice and criticism," Ramsaye declared, "the industry which has grown up with its patrons still knows best how to make, distribute and show pictures. It will keep the job."

Hellinger Here to Set Columbia Deal

Mark Hellinger has arrived here from California, reportedly to discuss a releasing deal with Columbia following fulfillment of his four-picture pact with Universal-International. The U-I commitment, which will be executed when Hellinger completes production of "Homicide," led off with "The Killers," followed by "Fall Guy," both of which have been released. The third, "Brute Force," has been finished but has not yet been released.

Plunkett Resumes Ad Post for Paramount

Jack Plunkett has resumed duties as director of advertising-publicity for Paramount in Continental Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, according to word sent to the New York office by John B. Nathan, Paramount's division manager in that territory.

Herald Starts Third

Work has started on the third all-Negro production to be made in New York by Herald Pictures. Jack Goldberg is president.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

HEY! THERE'S A LOT OF JACK HERE!!!



The first 10 houses that have it are holding it! This week general release gets under way so make way for a happiness-maker!

FROM WARNERS NOW!

JACK CARSON

CO-STARRING ROBERT HUTTON · MARTHA VICKERS · JANIS PAIGE

"LOVE and LEARN"



directed by FREDERICK de CORDOVA

produced by WILLIAM JACOBS

Screen Play by Eugene Conrad, Francis Swann and I. A. L. Diamond • Adapted from a Story by Harry Sauber • Musical Score Composed and Adapted by Max Steiner

AMPA Citation Another High Point for Dietz

By CHARLES L. FRANKE

Another high point in Howard Dietz's long career as an advertising executive was marked recently when the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers cited the Loew vice-president for having devised the "best exploitation stunt of the year."

M-G-M's "Sea of Grass" was Dietz's inspiration for the exploitation effort which won for him AMPA citation. He had sent an "eye-winking" letter to each of the 450 editors and publishers across the country, enclosing a deed to an acre of Mexico "grassland." In short order the trade press and newspapers everywhere reported the give-away, and columnists, many of them proudly cherishing the documents which identified them as "landholders," devoted space aplenty to Dietz's latest pitch.



Howard Dietz

The applause which emanated from 600 pairs of hands when AMPA president Rutgers Neilson presented Dietz with the citation at the organization's 30th annual banquet on April 23 at the Hotel Astor, here, was typical of the warmth with which the industry is prone to greet the citation of one of its representatives.

Joined Goldwyn in 1918

Dietz was born in New York City on Sept. 8, 1896. He was educated at Columbia University, worked as a New York newspaper reporter, served with the U. S. Navy during World War I, and in 1918 joined the advertising department of Goldwyn Pictures Corp. With the merger in 1924 that formed Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Dietz was appointed director of advertising-publicity, and brought along to the new company the trade-mark he had developed for Goldwyn: roaring Leo the Lion—still the initial character to appear in every M-G-M picture.

From 1923 on, and concurrently with his motion picture advertising duties, Dietz emerged variously as an author, writer of song lyrics and contributor of sketches for New York stage revues and operettas, including "June Goes Downtown," "The Little Show," "Three's a Crowd," "The Bandwagon," "At Home Abroad," and "Between the Devil." He wrote the book and lyrics for "Sadie Thompson," which was produced in New York in 1944. Meanwhile, he found time to invent a fast three-handed bridge game known as "Dietz."

Treasury Consultant, 1941

In 1941, the year he was elected a Loew's vice-president, Dietz was appointed special screen and radio consultant of the U. S. Treasury Department. Among his accomplishments in that role was the bringing into being of radio's The Treasury Hour, original bond-selling program presenting weekly the nation's outstanding entertainment talent. Irving Berlin wrote "Any Bonds Today" for that program.

Several years ago, before World War II, Dietz had an arc light put atop the New York Capitol Theatre to project M-G-M advertisements on the clouds. Reporting this advertising venture in an article about Dietz in the Dec. 18, 1943, issue of *Liberty Magazine*, Edward Hutchings, Jr., wrote as follows: "This turned out to be highly successful, but was discontinued after a short time because on cloudless nights the light had a way of swinging around and projecting ads on the side of the Paramount Building down the street, saying 'Go to the Capitol'."

Other pre-war advertising "stunts" engineered by Dietz included a transcontinental plane flight for Leo the Lion (in the flesh), a trackless train which toured the globe, introduction of the animated sign to Broadway in 1929, a traveling screen-test studio, and several others.

Dietz's style and that of all other exploiteers was necessarily stymied by World War II. But with the end of hostilities the way was once more clear for putting into operation by Dietz the advertising techniques of which he was a master. Last year his organization sent aloft the much publicized "M-G-Mairship," the U. S. Navy blimp which for several months traversed the skyways of the Atlantic Seaboard and announced M-G-M films to the public in large electric letters that could be read from miles away. More recently, Dietz and his organization devised "The First Families of Brooklyn" idea in connection with the Brooklyn world premiere of "It Happened in Brooklyn." A certificate of incorporation of the First Families of Brooklyn was drawn up with complete legal seriousness, numerous Brooklyn families joined the organization, and M-G-M, at the premiere, distributed to the theatre patrons a 16-page slick-paper program recording full details about the organization.

Then came the "Sea of Grass" "stunt." That's where we came in.

Mexicans See Films Of Aleman's Trip

WASHINGTON, May 7.—The State Department's Office of International Information and Cultural Affairs reveals that as part of its program to keep the Mexican people informed on President Aleman's visit it has arranged for the showing of documentary films throughout Mexico on U. S. places visited by him. More than 40 projectors were loaned by the U. S. Embassy at Mexico City to schools and exhibition halls for this purpose, the Department said.

OIC films are currently being shown in 179 Mexican towns, according to the announcement.

SIMPP Head to Aid In Mexican Study

HOLLYWOOD, May 7.—Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, has accepted an invitation from President Aleman of Mexico to spend two weeks in Mexico in June to study the country's industrial setup. Nelson will assist Aleman in working out Mexico's industrial problems on an unofficial and voluntary basis, according to a spokesman for the SIMPP executive, but he will not relinquish his post here.

2 Exhibitor Units Set Conventions

The Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana will hold its annual summer convention at Lake Wawasee, Ind., on June 23-25.

The Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska, which this week concluded its 1947 convention at Omaha, has scheduled its 1948 convention for May 7-8, at Des Moines. The organization has established a new convention policy of one instead of two annual meetings, alternating between Des Moines and Omaha.

D. A. Doran Honored At Para. Reception

D. A. Doran, Paramount studio executive, was honor guest at a press reception given by the company yesterday at the "1-2-3 Club," here. Russell Holman, Eastern production head; John Byram, play department chief, and Alan Jackson, Eastern story editor, were hosts.

Others on hand from Paramount were: Bernard Goodwin, vice-president of Famous and Paramount music corporations; Boris Kaplan, Eastern talent head; Hiller Innes, assistant to Holman; Henry Salsbury of the Eastern production department, and Jean Weidman, John Rearick, Paul Nathan, C. N. Odell, Gordon Swarthout, Rex Taylor, Aileen Brenon, Burt Champion, and others.

Fecke to Manage for Producers Releasing

A. J. Fecke, for the past 15 years with Republic Pictures, has joined Producers Releasing Corp. as Boston branch manager, it was announced here yesterday by Ralph H. Clark, general sales manager.

Fecke is a veteran of the industry since 1917, when he joined World Film Corp. as assistant manager of the Boston office, remaining with that organization until it went out of business several years later. For the following few years, he was associated with his father in the independent film field, later going with Educational Films until 1932, when this company was combined with Fox Films. Then he joined Republic.

ITO of Ohio Hits Chaplin Bookings

COLUMBUS, O., May 7.—Exhibitors are urged by the board of directors of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, in a formal resolution, to refuse to book Charlie Chaplin's latest feature, "Monsieur Verdoux," because of the comedian's alleged wartime record, his personal conduct and his "refusal" to become an American citizen.

20th-Fox Heads to Coast

Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox; Murray Silverstone, 20th Century-Fox International; Tom J. Connors, vice-president in charge of sales; William J. Kupper, general sales manager, and Charles Schlaifer, advertising-publicity director, will fly to the Coast on Tuesday. In addition to viewing new product, they will discuss production and promotional plans.

Industry Leaders Aid NY Fund Drive

Leonard H. Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp.; Arthur L. Mayer, president of Midtown Theatre Corp., and Herman Robbins, president of National Screen Service, have been enlisted by The Greater New York Fund to solicit theatres, studios and equipment firms in the Fund's current drive for $32,300,000 to aid 423 health and welfare agencies in the city. The drive will continue through this month.

Metropolitan Theatres Association members participating in the drive include Leo Brecher, Gus Eyssell and Sam Rinzler. Meanwhile, Bing Crosby, Frederic March, Bert Lahr and others have been engaged to bring the Fund's message to the public.

Sweden May Limit U.S. Producers' Revenue

Swedish State Bank authorities are considering placing a limitation upon the amount of revenue which American film producers may take out of Sweden each year, it was reported here yesterday in press dispatches from Stockholm.

The dispatches said that the proposed action is the result of the government's general ban on imports. The permitted annual revenue that may be taken out of Sweden will probably be fixed at $1,000,000, the balance to be deposited in Sweden. Last year, American producers' revenue in Sweden was $2,750,000, for the showing of 168 American films.

Motion Picture Export Association officials were unavailable yesterday for comment.

Top Writers To Cover 'Repeat Performance'

Earl Wilson, Robert Ruark, Jay Breen, Dick Connors, Douglas Anderson and other columnists, writers and radio commentators will cover the world premiere of Eagle-Lion's "Repeat Performance" at the Liberty Theatre in Zanesville, O., on May 22.

The opening has been set by Zanesville and Ohio officials as the highlight of a statewide sesquicentennial celebration commemorating the founding of Zanesville 150 years ago. The correspondents will fly to Zanesville on May 21. Radio coverage will be handled by Maggi McNellis, NBC commentator; Bill Leonard, CBS air columnist, and Dolores Craig of WINS.

May 22 Deadline on Byrd Film Offers

WASHINGTON, May 7.—The Navy Department announced that May 22 is the deadline for making offers to use portions of the official Byrd Antarctic expedition films. Screening of some 250,000 feet of black and white and color film was completed May 1, with several of the major producers having sent representatives to view the film for possible commercial use.

'U' Party for Rank

Universal has added a cocktail party at the Metropolitan Club to its Monday schedule for J. Arthur Rank. He will be guest at a Universal luncheon at the same place on Monday and will attend a meeting of the Universal board of directors after.

Boxoffice Haul!

H13CC 4N NL PD

NEWYORK NY MAY 4 1947

GRADWELL SEARS, UNITED ARTIST PICTURES

729 7 AVE NYK

BUILD A BETTER MOUSETRAP AND THE WORLD WILL BEAT A PATH TO YOUR DOOR IF EVER THIS QUOTATION WAS CORRECT IT WAS CERTAINLY PROVEN BY CARNEGIE HALL WHICH HAS SMASHED ALL PREVIOUS ATTENDANCE AND ADMISSION RECORDS PLUS THE FACT THAT WE WERE COMPELLED TURN AWAY THOUSAND UPON THOUSANDS OF PATRONS THE PARK AVENUE THEATRE HAS BEEN A COMPLETE SELLOUT AND THE ADVANCE SALE IS VERY HEAVY IT MIGHT ALSO INTEREST YOU TO KNOW THAT NO AUDIENCE HAS EVER ENJOYED A MOTION PICTURE LIKE CARNEGIE HALL AFTER EACH ARTISTS PERFORMANCE THERE IS SPONTANEOUS APPLAUSE FROM THE ENTIRE AUDIENCE THIS IS A NEW EXPERIENCE FOR A MOTION PICTURE THEATRE FURTHERMORE STRANGE AS IT MAY SEEM CARNEGIE HALL IS NOT APPEALING TO A CLASS AUDIENCE ONLY BUT TO THE MASSES TO SUM IT ALL UP CARNEGIE HALL IS A TREMENDOUS HIT AND I EXTEND MY SINCEREST CONGRATULATIONS THROUGH YOU TO MISTER BORIS MORROS AND MISTER LEBARON WITH PERSONAL REGARDS TO YOU

BOB UNGERFELD MANAGING DIRECTOR OF WINTER GARDEN AND PARK AVENUE THEATRE

Carnegie Hall!

Boris Morros and William Le Baron *Presents* "CARNEGIE HALL" *with* Marsha Hunt · William Prince · Frank McHugh · Martha O'Driscoll Hans Yaray · Olin Downes · Joseph Buloff *and in order of appearance* WALTER DAMROSCH · BRUNO WALTER · NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA · LILY PONS · GREGOR PIATIGORSKY · RISE STEVENS · ARTUR RODZINSKI ARTUR RUBINSTEIN · JAN PEERCE · EZIO PINZA · VAUGHN MONROE AND HIS ORCHESTRA · JASCHA HEIFETZ FRITZ REINER · LEOPOLD STOKOWSKI *and* HARRY JAMES · Directed by Edgar G. Ulmer · Production Supervisor, Samuel Rheiner Original Story by Seena Owen · Screenplay by Karl Kamb · A Federal Films Production · Released Thru United Artists

Short Subject

"The Big Party"

(This Is America—RKO Pathe)

The latest in the This Is America series, produced by Frederic Ullman, Jr., takes the audience behind the scenes of the Mardi Gras in New Orleans.

Shown in the film is the work entailed by the many organizations which sponsor the event; the parade which climaxes it, and the splendor, frolic and fancy dress balls that take place during the Mardi Gras season. The subject also provides an interesting travel-talk of New Orleans itself. Running time, 18 minutes.

PCCITO Urged

(*Continued from page* 1)

The convention is being held at the Ambassador Hotel, here.

Lowenstein also dissented from the industry's decision to postpone formation of the suggested Motion Picture Forum until the U. S. Supreme Court hands down its decision on appeals from the New York decree in the equity case.

Also, he branded Ascap's setup and operation as being in violation of the Sherman anti-trust act.

Loren Ryder, president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, declared: "Television for theatres can be made ready within one or two years if the motion picture industry is ready to accept its share of the cost in applying present equipment to theatre use." Ryder said he believed showmanship principals and entertainment requirements, rather than technological developments, will determine ultimately the nature and extent of the use of television in theatres.

Unsworth to London

HOLLYWOOD, May 7.—Geoffrey Unsworth left here today on the American Airlines' *Mercury* for New York, with London his ultimate destination. As an associate of Frank Launder and Sidney Gilliat, the producer-writer-director team, Unsworth only recently returned from the Fiji Islands, where he made Technicolor tests for "The Blue Lagoon," the J. Arthur Rank picture which will be filmed on the islands.

$8,596,779 Loew Net

Net profit of Loew's, Inc., for the 28 weeks ended March 13 was $8,596,779. A transposition in a story appearing in these columns yesterday reported the net as $8,956,779.

Film Liaison

(*Continued from page* 1)

mittee which has been discussing the plans with City Commerce Commissioner George Sanders.

Purpose of the co-ordinator idea is to eliminate the considerable "red-tape" with which producers are confronted when they seek to film on location in the city. Long delays have been encountered as a result of overlapping responsibilities of various city departments, and the necessity for securing approval for location shootings from several quarters.

The committee is scheduled to have another conference with Sanders this week to iron out details, preparatory to taking the co-ordinator proposal to Mayor William O'Dwyer for his approval. It appears certain that O'Dwyer will approve the committee's recommendation, for he has publicly encouraged film production here.

The industry liaison, Scoppa said, should be someone who has been in close touch with New York production problems. With him on the planning committee are Steve Fitzgibbons, 20th-Fox; Harold Lewis, RKO Pathe, and Judge McGuire, municipal labor conciliator. Richard Walsh, IATSE international president, is credited with having initiated the proposal.

'Pitfalls' in Bidding

(*Continued from page* 1)

not afford at the risk of financial disaster.

Questioned on the possible aftermath of the ultimate disposition of the equity case, McKay expressed the belief that affirming of the New York decree by the U. S. Supreme Court "would almost certainly be followed" by a considerable number of civil damage suits by exhibitors. These, he said, would be based upon various theories concerning practices condemned by the decree.

However, he declared he did not believe the merits of these suits would be substantially affected by the decree even if affirmed and the results would be substantially the same as they would have been in the absence of the decree.

'Stranger' for Truman

"Welcome Stranger," Paramount comedy starring Bing Crosby, Barry Fitzgerald and Joan Caulfield will be screened in the White House tomorrow at a command performance which will be part of the festivities marking President Truman's birthday celebration, Paramount stated here yesterday. Robert Denton, Paramount representative in the Capital, was liaison between the White House and the company in arranging for the screening.

Bomb Damage Shuts MGM Cairo Theatre

The Metro Theatre, 2,500-seat house in Cairo, Egypt, has been damaged by a time-bomb placed in the balcony, M-G-M reports here. The extent of the damage could not be ascertained, but the theatre which was built about 10 years ago, has been closed for repairs.

According to press reports, which vary, from two to four persons were killed and about 10 injured. Reasons for the bombing could not be determined but speculation by political observers indicates they do not believe it was an expression of anti-American or anti-foreign feeling.

German Film Export Totals Are Unknown

WASHINGTON, May 7.—American officials in Germany still have no estimate of exactly how much German film exports may amount to, according to M. S. Szmyczak, director of the Economic Division of the Office of Military Government for Germany.

Szymczak, who has just returned from Berlin, said that "information on the subject in Germany is almost as vague as it is here."

Slater On His Own; To Handle 'Patient'

Bill Slater has resigned from Columbia's home office special events department, to open his own publicity office, to be known as United Publicity Bureau, for commercial and theatrical accounts. A veteran of 20 years in the industry, Slater was also founder and original publisher of *Cue* magazine. United has been engaged to handle the Broadway opening of "The Patient Vanishes," starring James Mason, and released by Film Classics.

Variety Show Stars

HOLLYWOOD, May 7.—Dennis Morgan, Janis Paige, Penny Edwards and Tom D'Andrea are the first names to be set for the "million-dollar" show to be staged by LeRoy Prinz and James V. Kern at Warner's studios for the Humanitarian Awards dinner of Variety Clubs International on May 17. Jack Carson will be master-of-ceremonies.

Another Fox First-Run

KANSAS CITY, May 7.—The Tower, 2,100-seat house, will make the third Fox Midwest first-run in Kansas City, starting Friday. The others are the Esquire and Uptown. The change will give Fox a total of 4,800 seats in first-runs here, compared with the present 3,500.

Two FC Films to Loew

Loew's in New York has completed arrangements with George Waldman, Film Classics Metropolitan district manager, to play "The Thief of Bagdad," Korda Technicolor film, and Robert Donat in "The Ghost Goes West," over the entire metropolitan circuit.

New Astor Exchange

CHARLOTTE, May 7.—Reconversion of a building for Astor Pictures in North Charlotte is under way, and according to R. P. Hinson, owner, should be ready for the opening of the new $100,000 project by mid-July.

MGM 'Streamlining'

(*Continued from page* 1)

and those in Denver beginning May 25.

Charles K. Stern, Loew's assistant treasurer, and Alan F. Cummings, in charge of branch operations and maintenance, will conduct the sessions. M. L. Simons, assistant to H. M. Richey and editor of *The Distributor;* Harold Postman, assistant to Cummings, and Bill Ornstein, liaison between sales and publicity, will attend both meetings.

General problems affecting the operations of the branches will be discussed at the meetings in an effort to streamline activities of all branches, particularly in view of the new order under the decree.

Office managers on hand for the Cincinnati meetings will include those in Boston, New Haven, New York, Washington, Charlotte, Atlanta, Memphis, New Orleans, Cleveland, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, Philadelphia, Albany, Buffalo and Cincinnati.

The Denver meetings will be represented by managers from Chicago, Omaha, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Des Moines, St. Louis, Dallas, Kansas City, Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, Oklahoma City and Denver.

Names In The News

(*Continued from page* 1)

headquarters in London. Farley's appointment was made to coordinate the company's production efforts in England and to tie them in with production policies laid down by president Barney Balaban and production chief Henry Ginsberg, the company stated.

Economist J. Borkin Will Advise on US Rank Interests

Joseph Borkin, Washington, has been retained as consulting economist for the J. Arthur Rank Organization, by Robert Benjamin, president.

Borkin was formerly chief economic adviser and attorney in the anti-trust division of the Department of Justice and economist with the Federal Communications Commission. He will advise Benjamin with respect to all Rank interests in this country.

D.C. Daylight Time

WASHINGTON, May 7.—The District of Columbia will have daylight saving time, effective this coming Sunday. District commissioners, at a meeting late this afternoon, ordered residents to move their clocks ahead at 2 A.M. Sunday morning.

FOR SALE

Finest Theatre Site on Long Island

VALLEY STREAM

THE GATEWAY TO NASSAU

Located on Franklin Avenue at Sunrise Highway facing the beautiful Valley Stream Station Park Plaza.

Plot 30,000 square feet, over 300 feet alongside Sunrise Highway

Municipal parking facilities for over one thousand cars.

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Within five minutes ride of Lynbrook, Malverne, Rosedale, Elmont, Grant Park, Hewlett and Woodmere.

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Experienced Movie - Copy Writer To Be Chief on Motion Picture Account

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Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

Business was uneven during the week. Out ahead in four theatres is "The Macomber Affair." Entering its first week in six theatres was "The Egg and I." Estimated receipts for the week ended May 7:

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—BRUIN (867) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5th week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $2,500)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio) and THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE (RKO-Radio) — BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $7,100)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $15,500. (Average: $18,200)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,100)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio) and THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE (RKO Radio)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—FOX-BEVERLY (1,350) (advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 19th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average at regular prices: $12,000)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,400)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00 Gross: $6,500. (Average: $4,700)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio and THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM) (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $18,800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PALACE (1,237) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 15th week. Gross: $10,600. (Average at regular prices: $21,000)

FRAMED (Col.) and KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Col.) — PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $20,800)

THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.) and SPOILERS OF THE NORTH (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $12,500. (Average: $26,600)

THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $8,000. (Average: $16,100)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,600)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5th week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,100)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,300)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—GUILD (965) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 8th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average at regular prices: $5,900)

FRAMED (Col.) and KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Col.) — HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $19,800)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,200)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox) and JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) Gross: $28,500. (Average: $28,600)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $22,600)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox) — LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,500)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) Gross: $6,500. (Average: $4,700)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) Gross: $22,000. (Average: $14,200)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5th week Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,800)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox) — UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,200)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—VOGUE (800) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.50-$1.80) 18th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE SEA HAWK (WB reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB reissue)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $18,200)

THE SEA HAWK (WB reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB reissue)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,500)

THE SEA HAWK (WB reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB reissue)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $14,900)

KANSAS CITY

Fine weather with temperatures around 80 on Saturday and Sunday, contributed to a sharp decline in theatre attendance. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 6-8:

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c). Gross: $6,800. (Average: $8,000)

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c). Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,750)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.) — NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and ACCOMPLICE (PRC)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000)

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c). Gross: $5,200. (Average: $6,000)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c). Gross: $6,000. (Average with stage show: $9,000)

SALT LAKE CITY

Although the outdoor season is a few weeks earlier than usual, first-runs are doing well above average and holdovers are holding their own. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 11:

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,600. (Average: $7,800)

CALCUTTA (Para.) — CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,600)

ACCOMPLICE (PRC) and GAS HOUSE KIDS (PRC)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c) With vaudeville. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,850)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox)—RIALTO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $3,700)

SMASH-UP (U-I)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $4,800)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) — UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $9,900. (Average: $5,900)

THE RED HOUSE (UA)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,300)

BALTIMORE

Film-goers might have spring fever. Weather is good and there is no competition in town. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 8:

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $14,000)

EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000)

STALLION ROAD (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $16,500)

FRAMED (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $17,500)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) — TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-44c-56c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,500)

CARMEN (Superfilm)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-55c). Gross: $3,250. (Average: $3,000)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 3rd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

OMAHA

With the exception of "The Best Years of Our Lives," grosses were unimpressive. Weather alternated between sunshine and rain. Estimated receipts for the week ended May 7:

13 RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox) and GINGER (Mono.)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $8,400. (Average: $8,500)

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue) and DANGEROUS MONEY (Mono.) — ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $9,200. (Average: $9,300)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—PARAMOUNT (50c-65c) 4 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $10,600)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—BRANDEIS (1,200) (Advanced prices: 75c-$1.25) 3rd week. Gross: $10,900. (Average at regular prices: $6,600)

TORONTO

Rainy days, the opening of the baseball season and the beginning of a series of concerts all had somewhat of an adverse effect on grosses. Five of the eight first-runs have holdovers. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 8:

THE MAN I LOVE (WB) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,400. (Average: $5,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 7th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,800)

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $14,300)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $13,800)

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (RKO Radio)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $14,800)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 7th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,500)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,400)

THE MAN I LOVE (WB) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,800)

Scully Sees 'Egg' as U's All-Time High

Based on results to date in its initial engagements, "The Egg and I" will be the biggest grossing picture in Universal's history, W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, predicted yesterday.

Scully said the staying power of the picture has been confirmed in numerous extended engagements and on a comparative basis is far ahead of the company's other top grossing pictures.

'Duel' Grosses Are Beating 'GWTW'

In five out of seven new key city openings, receipts scored by "Duel in the Sun" indicate that the new Selznick picture is topping "Gone With the Wind" by approximately 15 per cent, the Selznick Releasing Organization reports here.

In Nashville, Sunday receipts on "Duel" were $4,768 against $4,883 done by "GWTW" for entire weekend; in Louisville, "Duel" ran $2,000 better than "GWTW" for a similar weekend; in Fort Worth, "Duel" did $18,206 for the first six days, against $17,800 registered by "GWTW" in a full week; in Lubbock, Texas, on two week days, "Duel" grossed $3,400 against $3,300 scored by "GWTW" for a weekend; in Midland, Texas, "Duel" did $1,750 in two days, against $1,500 done by "GWTW" for a weekend.

Seattle Approves 'Duel'

SEATTLE, May 7.—The Seattle Board of Theatre (Censor) Supervisors has voted five to four to rescind action previously taken requiring certain deletions to be made in "Duel in the Sun," opening today at the Fifth Avenue Theatre. Announcement of approval of the film was made by executives of Hamrick-Evergreen Theatres, after authorization by Bernard Reiter, board chairman.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
April 12	(April Releases) GUILT OF JANET AMES Rosalind Russell Melvyn Douglas D—81 mins. (Rev. 3/5/47)	(April Releases) IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN Frank Sinatra Jimmy Durante C—103 mins. (Rev. 3/3/47)	VIOLENCE Nancy Coleman Michael O'Shea		PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE Alan Curtis D—62 min. (Rev. 5/1/47)	BELLS OF SAN ANGELO Roy Rogers Dale Evans	(Block 4) TRAIL STREET Randolph Scott Robert Ryan O—84 mins. (Rev. 2/20/47)	(April Releases) THE LATE GEORGE APLEY Ronald Colman Peggy Cummins C—98 min. (Rev. 1/31/47)		(April Releases) BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME Abbott-Costello C—77 mins. (Rev. 3/10/47)	STALLION ROAD Ronald Reagan Alexis Smith Zachary Scott D—97 min. (Rev. 3/19/47)
April 19	FRAMED Glenn Ford Janis Carter Barry Sullivan D—82 mins. (Rev. 3/5/47)	LITTLE MR. JIM Butch Jenkins James Craig D—94 mins. (Rev. 6/10/46)	HIGH CONQUEST Anna Lee Warren Douglas D—83 mins. (Rev. 3/13/47)		THE BIG FIX James Brown D—63 min. (Rev. 5/2/47)	SPOILERS OF THE NORTH Paul Kelly Adrian Booth D—66 min. (Rev. 5/2/47)	THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE Lawrence Tierney D—62 mins. (Rev. 2/27/47)	CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA Dick Haymes Vera-Ellen M—95 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)	(Jules Levey) NEW ORLEANS Arturo de Cordova Dorothy Patrick M—89 min. (Rev. 4/25/47)	YOU CAN'T CHEAT AN HONEST MAN (Reissue) W. C. Fields C—73 mins. (Rev. 2/20/39)	
April 26		THE SEA OF GRASS Spencer Tracy Katharine Hepburn D—125 mins. (Rev. 2/13/47)		THE IMPERFECT LADY Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—97 mins. (Rev. 3/10/47)	FRONTIER FIGHTERS RAIDERS OF RED ROCK PANHANDLE TRAIL		BEAT THE BAND Frances Langford M—67 mins. (Rev. 2/24/47)			I STOLE A MILLION (Reissue) George Raft Claire Trevor D—78 mins. (Rev. 7/18/39)	(Reissue) THE SEA HAWK Errol Flynn Claude Rains (Reissue) THE SEA WOLF Edw. G. Robinson Ida Lupino
May 3	FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson D—69 mins.	(May Release) HIGH BARBAREE Van Johnson June Allyson D—91 min. (Rev. 3/13/47)	LAND OF THE LAWLESS J. Mack Brown Raymond Hatton (Reissue) QUEEN OF THE YUKON Charles Bickford Irene Rich	BLAZE OF NOON Anne Baxter William Holden D—90 mins. (Rev. 3/4/47)	CODE OF THE PLAINS THUNDERCAP OUTLAWS SHOOTIN' IRONS		CODE OF THE WEST James Warren O—57 mins. (Rev. 2/21/47)	SAN DEMETRIO, LONDON Walter Fitzgerald Mervyn Johns D—76 min. (Rev. 4/1/47)	(Enterprise) RAMROD Joel McCrea Veronica Lake O—94 mins. (Rev. 2/21/47)		LOVE AND LEARN Jack Carson Robert Hutton C—85 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)
May 10	(May Releases) LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) D—77 mins. GUNFIGHTERS (Color)	UNDERCOVER MAISIE Ann Southern Barry Nelson C—90 min. (Rev. 3/4/47)	HARD BOILED MAHONEY Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall C—63 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)		(Eagle-Lion) RED STALLION Robert Paige Ted Donaldson BORDER FEUD Al La Rue O—55 min.	OREGON TRAIL SCOUTS Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min. THAT'S MY GAL (Color) Lynne Roberts Donald Barry	(Block 5) HONEYMOON Shirley Temple Franchot Tone C—74 mins. (Rev. 4/16/47)	(May Releases) THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR Rex Harrison Gene Tierney	(Comet) ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (Color) Richard Martin D—65 mins. (Rev. 5/1/47)	(May Releases) TIME OUT OF MIND Phyllis Calvert Robert Hutton Ella Raines D—88 mins. (Rev. 3/7/47)	
May 17	BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY Ron Randell D—70 mins.	(Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)	SARGE GOES TO COLLEGE Alan Hale, Jr.	BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—60 min. (Rev. 2/18/47)	(Eagle-Lion) REPEAT PERFORMANCE Joan Leslie Louis Hayward	WINTER WONDERLAND Lynne Roberts Charles Drake D—71 min.	TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS Johnny Weismuller O—72 min. (Rev. 3/20/47)	HOMESTRETCH Cornel Wilde Maureen O'Hara D—96 mins. (Rev. 4/18/47)	(Hunt Stromberg) DISHONORED LADY Hedy Lamarr (Rev. 4/23/47)	THE WEB Edward O'Brien Ella Raines William Bendix	
May 24	LAW OF THE CANYON Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette		BACKFIRE Johnny Mack Brown		TOO MANY WINNERS Hugh Beaumont (Reissue) THE CORSICAN BROTHERS Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. (Reissue) INTERNATIONAL LADY George Brent		BORN TO KILL Lawrence Tierney D—92 mins. (Rev. 4/21/47)	JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG Richard Travis Micheline Cheirel D—64 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)	(Hopalong Cassidy) DANGEROUS VENTURE William Boyd O—59 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)	THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay	THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS Humphrey Bogart Barbara Stanwyck D—100 min. (Rev 4/1/47)
May 31	THE MILLERSON CASE Warner Baxter PRAIRIE RAIDERS Charles Starrett	THE YEARLING Gregory Peck Jane Wyman D—134 min. (717) (Rev. 11/27/46)	SONG OF THE WASTELAND Jimmy Wakely	CALCUTTA Alan Ladd Wm. Bendix D—83 min. (Rev. 4/16/47)	KILLER AT LARGE Robert Lowery O—63 min. (Rev. 4/30/47)	THAT'S MY MAN Don Ameche Catherine McLeod	A LIKELY STORY Barbara Hale Bill Williams C—88 mins. (Rev. 4/21/47)		(Sam Coslow) COPACABANA Groucho Marx Carmen Miranda M—92 mins.	(Reissue) MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION Irene Dunne Robert Taylor D—101 min.	
June 1					STEPCHILD Brenda Joyce D—70 min.	SADDLE PALS Gene Autry	BANJO Sharyn Moffett Una O'Connor D—67 min. (Rev. 4/21/47)	(June Release) MOSS ROSE Peggy Cummins Victor Mature		(Reissue) 100 MEN AND A GIRL Deanna Durbin Leopold Stokowski D—84 min.	
June 8					PHILO VANCE RETURNS William Wright D—64 min.	WEB OF DANGER Adele Mara		MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET Maureen O'Hara John Payne D—96 min. (Rev. 5/2/47)			CHEYENNE Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman O—100 min. (Rev. 4/23/47)
June 15											

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*

DO NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 91 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, MAY 9, 1947 TEN CENTS

MPA Elects 6 Additional As Directors

Quorum Said Assured For Future Meetings

Six additional directors of the Motion Picture Association, representing as many member companies, were elected at a special MPA meeting here yesterday. The appointments were described as a legal move virtually assuring a quorum at future meetings, since in the past all company presidents, as board members, were not always available.

Warners is not accounted for in the MPA announcement of the additional board members, elected after a certificate of change to increase the number of directors from the 18 previously authorized to a maximum of 36 was approved.

The new members are: Abe Schneider, vice-president and treasurer, Columbia; Joseph R. Vogel, vice-president of Loew's; Austin C. Keough, Paramount vice-president and general counsel; John W. Whitaker, RKO vice-president; W. C. Michel, execu-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Ceiling Placed on Mexican Admissions

MEXICO CITY, May 8.—The voluntary cut in their admissions by the three largest theatres here, the Metropolitan, 5,000 seats; the Colonial, 6,500 seats, Mexico's largest, and the Coloso, 6,000 seats, has been followed by Mayor Fernando Casas Aleman order-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Set All Dates for Bldg. Code Hearings

Additional dates on which public hearings will be held on the proposed revision of the New York State building code for places of public assembly, including theatres, have been set as follows: Buffalo, June 9; Rochester, June 10; Syracuse, June 11; Albany, June 12.

June 6 had previously been set for a hearing in New York City.

AMG Extends Pommer Pact

WASHINGTON, May 8.—The War Department announced that the Information Central Division of American Military Government in Germany had extended the contract of Eric Pommer, chief of the film section.

The announcement was designed to show that the ICD was "completely satisfied" with Pommer's work. Army officials here said the extension was thought to be for a 60-day period past the present July 4 expiration date, indicating that the program "might be in some sort of shape by early September."

At the same time, Army officials pointed out that Gen. Clay recently announced that no present employes of AMG would be fired because they had become citizens later than 1933. There had been some talk that Pom-

(*Continued on page 3*)

PCCITO to Prepare Ascap Legal Test

LOS ANGELES, May 8.—Trustees of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, at the final convention session here today, were authorized to submit concrete proposals for raising a $25,000 fund to engage counsel to determine the legality of music fees levied by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers on exhibitors.

The convention also went on record against local checkers, and demanded that the practice be discontinued.

All exhibitor organizations must work together to oppose the mounting wave of state and municipal taxation on theatres, David Palfreyman, director of theatre service for the Motion Picture Association, told the delegates.

The Convention closed with a banquet tonight at the Biltmore Hotel Bowl, where a special performance, provided through the Hollywood coordinating committee, featured George Murphy as master-of-ceremonies, with Jimmy Durante, Victor Borge, Donald O'Connor, Janis Paige, Olga San Juan heading the list of entertainers.

Sales for Cinecolor Rise to $2,700,000

HOLLYWOOD, May 8.—Cinecolor sales for the year ending Sept. 30 are estimated at $2,700,000 by Karl Herzog, treasurer, in a letter to stockholders. This compares with $850,000 in the previous year.

Variety Clubs Will Back the Foundation

Robert J. O'Donnell, Texas circuit operator, will, as chief barker of the National Variety Clubs, introduce a resolution during Variety International's Hollywood convention, next week, endorsing the Motion Picture Foundation.

O'Donnell will point out that the Foundation is an industry plan to care for its own, whereas the various Variety Clubs engage in charitable activities for "outsiders," and, therefore, there will be no conflict.

New La.-Miss. Owners' Unit

NEW ORLEANS, May 8.—Thirty-seven independent exhibitors of Louisiana and Mississippi organized Allied Theatres of both states at a meeting held yesterday at the Hotel Bentley, Alexandria, La. Reports from the local delegation say that the meeting was a success.

W. A. Prewitt, Jr., of Associated Theatres, was elected president; Don George of Shreveport was named vice-president, and A. Barrenson, who operates the Tower and Hollywood theatres in Gretna, was elected secretary-treasurer.

House Unit Probes 'Reds' on the Coast

LOS ANGELES, May 8.—With Ronald Reagan, Screen Actors Guild president, pledging cooperation, if asked, in pointing out "the real Communists" in the film industry, a subcommittee of the House Un-American Activities Committee arrived here today to embark on a fact-finding investigation of Hans Eisler, film com-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Truman Gets Film Gift on Birthday

WASHINGTON, May 8.—Members of the Motion Picture Association today presented President Truman with a "movie-album" as a gift on his 63rd birthday. Representatives of the newsreels which contributed to the 13-reel pictorial record of the highlights of the President's public career presented the album at the White House this morning.

The album was prepared in New York under supervision of the newsreel editors committee.

High Tribunal Gets Appeals In Trust Suit

Jurisdiction Decision Is 'Likely' in 2 to 3 Weeks

WASHINGTON, May 8.—All appeals in the New York industry anti-trust suit were filed with the Supreme Court today, clearing the way for the high court to decide whether it will accept jurisdiction and hear the cases.

Appeals were filed by all eight industry defendents, by the Justice Department, and by the American Theatres Association and Confederacy of Southern Associations.

The filing of the appeals automatically stays the New York decree until the court's decision. According to court officials, a decision on hearing the case is likely around the end of the month or early in June.

If the court decides to hear the case, argument will probably go over to the fall session, opening in October. Court

(*Continued on page 3*)

41 Defendants in $1,050,000 Suit

SAN FRANCISCO, May 8.—A $1,050,000 damage suit is on file in Federal Court here, plaintiffs Raymond William and Pauline Syufy, owners and operators of the Rita and Victory theatres at Vallejo, charging 41 defendants, including Fox West Coast, 20th-Fox, Loew's, RKO, Warners,

(*Continued on page 3*)

Urge Committee to Curb 'Wrong-doers'

Hollywood, May 8. — Establishment of a three-man "morals commission" is advocated by Curtis Bernhardt, M-G-M producer, in a letter to Eric Johnston, MPA president, and to Donald Nelson, president of the SIMPP.

The commission would be empowered to "warn, fine, suspend and if necessary expel" individuals whose "scandalous hell-raising" is "bringing disgrace to the motion picture industry."

Personal Mention

DORE SCHARY, RKO Radio production executive, and PERRY LIEBER, studio publicity chief, will entrain for the Coast Sunday.

•

RICHARD DE ROCHEMONT, March of Time head, and SIMONE SIMON, actress, are among passengers who sailed for Europe yesterday on the *SS America.*

•

STANLEY H. CRAIG, Paramount's New Zealand general manager, is due here today from the Coast. WILLIAM HURWORTH, assistant manager in Sydney, arrived here Wednesday.

•

W. STEWART MCDONALD, Warner Theatres vice-president, is due back here today from a trip to Pittsburgh and Chicago.

•

ROY HAINES, Western division sales manager for Warner, has left for Chicago, first stop on a tour of the Midwest territory.

•

ARTHUR B. KRIM, Eagle-Lion president, has returned here from Coast conferences with BRYAN FOY, production vice-president.

•

KAY HARRISON, managing director of Technicolor, Ltd., London, and his wife are among passengers due here today on the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

•

DR. HERBERT T. KALMUS, Technicolor president, has returned to New York from Centerville, Mass.

•

ARNOLD PRESSBURGER, producer, is slated to sail for England tomorrow aboard the *Queen Elizabeth.*

•

E. Z. WALTERS, Altec comptroller, has arrived in New York from Hollywood.

•

CURTIS MITCHELL, Paramount's advertising-publicity chief, has left New York for the Coast.

Honor Schary Today At Eyssell Luncheon

G. S. Eyssel, president of Radio City Music Hall, will honor Dore Schary, studio head of RKO Radio Pictures, at a luncheon in the theatre's studio apartment today. Among those present will be N. Peter Rathvon, Ned E. Depinet, Robert Mochrie, S. Barret McCormick, Perry Leiber, all of RKO Radio, and Russell V. Downing, Jack F. Bailey and Fred L. Lynch of the Music Hall.

Decision Reserved on Air Conditioning Cut

KANSAS CITY, May 8.—Decision has been reserved by the State Public Service Commission, after a public hearing, on a tentative notice that air conditioning by hotels and theatres here would have to be cut this summer because of an electrical power shortage.

Epstein Leaves 'U' To Start Own Firm

MEXICO CITY, May 8.—Jacob Epstein, formerly Universal's general manager in Mexico, and Joseph Datshkovsky, until recently with RCA here, have formed Deksa, S.A., to distribute both 16mm. and 35mm. films, and also theatre equipment. The company will initiate the merchandising of British theatre equipment in this country, handling the line of G. B. Kalee, Ltd., of London, a J. Arthur Rank subsidiary. It will also handle 16mm. projectors of the Natco Co. of Chicago.

Meanwhile, Vincent Palmeri is acting manager here for Universal.

Keith Goldsmith to So. Africa for U-I

Keith Goldsmith, formerly Universal-International's general manager in India, will become the company's home office representative in South Africa, and Karl Jungmarker has been named to replace Leo Gussen, retired, as manager in Sweden, under a realignment of U-I field men abroad, Joseph H. Seidelman, foreign operations head, announced here yesterday.

Five More Pictures Rated by the Legion

Five additional films have been classified by the National Legion of Decency. Placed in Class A-I were: "Dog of Flanders," RKO Radio reissue; "I Know Where I'm Going," Prestige-Universal-International, and "The Last of the Redmen," Columbia.

"Dishonored Lady," United Artists, was classified A-II; "Born to Kill," RKO Radio, was placed in Class B.

Warner Ad Men Will Meet in Pittsburgh

Advertising men of Warner Theatres in the Pittsburgh and Cleveland zones will meet in Pittsburgh on Monday for a one-day session to be conducted by Harry Goldberg, advertising-publicity director for the circuit. Promotional campaigns for summer releases will be discussed.

Goldberg will return to New York on Tuesday.

Second "Jolson" Tour

"The Jolson Story," which Columbia says is currently setting a precedent at the Victoria Theatre, here, as the first film to return to a key-run house in this city immediately after completing its initial tour of the territory, will set an additional precedent by continuing for a second swing of the New York district following the conclusion of the Victoria showing. At that time the picture will move to a first-run house in Brooklyn and be brought back to the entire Loew circuit and other neighborhood houses in the city.

Symon Joins E-L

HOLLYWOOD, May 8.—Burk Symon, former test director for 20th Century-Fox, has been appointed head of Eagle-Lion's talent department. Symon will work under Irving Lazar, executive assistant to Bryan Foy, and Owen McLean, casting director.

68 at MPA Fete For Rank Monday

Guest list for the Motion Picture Association dinner for J. Arthur Rank at the Waldorf-Astoria Monday night follows:

Rank, John Davis, Robert Benjamin, Jock Lawrence, J. Earl Lawson, Arthur Krim, Robert R. Young, Robert W. Purcell, Thomas J. Deegan, William J. Heineman, I. W. Schlesinger, M. A. Schlesinger, Sir John Magowan.

Eric Johnston, Joyce O'Hara, Will H. Hays, Carl E. Milliken, Gerald M. Mayer, John G. McCarthy, Sidney Schreiber, Fred DuVall and Irving Maas.

Also, Jack Cohn, Abe Montague, Nicholas Schenck, Arthur Loew, Joseph Vogel, Charles Moskowitz, J. Robert Rubin, Adolph Zukor, Stanton Griffis, George Weltner, Paul Raibourn, Fred Mohrhardt, Louis Phillips, Ned Depinet, Robert Mochrie, Malcolm Kingsberg, Spyros Skouras, W. C. Michel, Murray Silverstone, Tom Connors, Joseph Moskowitz, Otto Koegel, William Kupper, Edward C. Raftery, Gradwell Sears, Nate J. Blumberg, J. Cheever Cowdin, Joseph Seidelman, W. A. Scully, Matthew Fox, John O'Connor and Charles Prutzman.

Also, Harry Warner, Albert Warner, Robert Perkins, Wolfe Cohen, Stanleigh Friedman, Joseph Hazen, Herman Robbins, E. P. Curtis, T. Kennedy Stevenson, E. W. Hammons, George Schaefer, William German, Gus Eyssell and Pat Casey.

Three Religious Films To Be Made by Rank

J. Arthur Rank, who will be honored here today by the World's Sunday School Association, at a luncheon at the Commodore Hotel, will produce three special religious films this year. Rank will receive a scroll at the luncheon for his work in the religious film field.

Also arriving aboard the *Queen Elizabeth* today are: John Davis, managing director of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, Ltd., and Mrs. Rank and Mrs. Davis; Sir Noel Ashbridge, deputy director of the British Broadcasting Corp.; Edward F. Lyons, joint managing director of Gaumont-British Kalee, and Mrs. Lyons; S. J. Myers, joint managing director of the British Lion Film Corp., and Mrs. Myers, and S. S. King, producer.

'Henry V' Nets $225,000 for Rank In 47-Week Run in New York

Net distribution profit earned on the 47-week showing of "Henry V" in New York City is $300,000, of which approximately 25 per cent, or $75,000, goes to United Artists, with the remaining $225,000 representing the share of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, the UA home office discloses.

During the 47 weeks—12 at the City Center and 35 at the Golden Theatre—the picture grossed a total of $754,904, UA reports. Distribution profit was arrived at after deduction of all expenses and charges, including exploitation-advertising costs, the theatres' rentals and profits. "Henry V" closed at the Golden last Saturday.

Sign Czech Pact for 40 Rank Films by '48

LONDON, May 8.—The Czechoslovak Film Monopoly has signed an agreement with J. Arthur Rank providing for the distribution in Czechoslovakia of a minimum of 40 Rank features by the end of 1948.

Rank, Young To Hold Press Conference

J. Arthur Rank, who will arrive here today from London on the *SS Queen Elizabeth,* and Robert R. Young, head of railroad and film organizations here, will be the principals at a press conference to be held at the Sherry Netherland Hotel Monday morning. The conference is described as the first at which Young has discussed his film interests, some of which are linked with Rank's enterprises here, including Eagle-Lion Films.

Also present will be Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president; Nate J. Blumberg, Universal president; John Davis, Rank's chief associate, and other officials of the Rank-Universal organizations.

$200,000 for "Duel" At N. Y. Openings

David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" grossed in excess of $200,000 on the first day at 38 Loew neighborhood theatres and at the Capitol, all in New York City.

In a period of 15 hours, the Selznick Releasing Organization office, here, reports 202,000 persons saw the picture at those theatres, exceeding by 104,000 the number who saw "Gone With the Wind" on its opening on Broadway and in Loew metropolitan neighborhood houses.

Mayer to Texas on Red Cross Mission

Arthur L. Mayer, president of Mayer-Burstyn and operator of the Rialto Theatre here, will leave tomorrow for Texas City, Texas, where, in his capacity as assistant to Basil O'Connor, chairman of the Red Cross, he will survey the damage of the disaster and the progress of the Red Cross relief.

The result of Mayer's observations will be contained in a report which the Red Cross will use for the extension of their services in similar situations in the future.

Wehrenberg on Fires

ST. LOUIS, May 8.—A special bulletin on fire precaution has been sent to St. Louis area theatres by Fred Wehrenberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America. The bulletin checklists safety provisions and suggestions of value in the prevention and handling of emergencies, with regard to the duties of both theatre owner and staff.

Stars to 'Cheyenne'

CHEYENNE, May 8.—Three Warner stars are coming here from Hollywood to participate in the world premiere of "Cheyenne" on May 22 at the Lincoln, Paramount and Princess theatres. The trio includes Dennis Morgan and Janis Paige, two of the "Cheyenne" stars, and Jack Carson.

Widder to Autry Unit

HOLLYWOOD, May 8.—Lincoln Widder, former Republic production executive, has been named personal assistant to Armand Schaefer, president of Gene Autry Productions.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London.". Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Claudette COLBERT Fred MacMURRAY
"THE EGG AND I"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
LAWRENCE TIERNEY · CLAIRE TREVOR · WALTER SLEZAK
'BORN TO KILL'

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN EDWARD G. ROBINSON LON McCALLISTER 'The RED HOUSE'
IN PERSON WALLY BROWN CHUCHO MARTINEZ
Extra! SALICI PUPPETS

LORETTA YOUNG
JOSEPH COTTEN · ETHEL BARRYMORE
in "The Farmer's Daughter"
An RKO Radio Picture
A DORE SCHARY Production
RIVOLI
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.
B'way at 49th St.

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR
B'way & 45th St.

ALAN LADD
GAIL RUSSELL
WILLIAM BENDIX in
"CALCUTTA"
A Paramount Picture
in Person DUKE ELLINGTON And His Orchestra
GOLDEN GATE QUARTETTE
COKE & POKE
and BUCK & BUBBLES
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

Cornel WILDE · Maureen O'HARA
"The HOMESTRETCH"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE — HAZEL SCOTT · The BARRY'S
CARL RAVAZZA · HENNY YOUNGMAN
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

Get Hep! Get in Step!
HERE'S YOUR
"HIT PARADE OF 1947"
Starring
EDDIE ALBERT · CONSTANCE MOORE · JOAN EDWARDS
with
GIL LAMB · BILL GOODWIN
WILLIAM FRAWLEY
WOODY HERMAN
and his Orchestra
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
NOW at Brandt's GOTHAM
Broadway & 47th St.

Pommer's Pact

(*Continued from page* 1)

mer might lose his job because of his recent U. S. citizenship.

The War Department said it was making its announcement as a direct answer to reports that the film program worked out in Germany under Pommer constituted a "propaganda machine" and a "threat of the first magnitude politically, socially and economically." Army officials pointed out that even if Pommer had any plans along this line he is acting under complete military control and would be in no position to build a propaganda machine or further his own interests in Germany.

Civil Affairs division spokesmen said they had no recent information on the joint Anglo-American meetings in Berlin regarding the proposed export of German-made films.

Casino Files Suit

Los Angeles, May 8.—Casino Film Exchanges, a New York corporation, has filed suit in Federal Court here against Levinson-Finney Enterprises, Inc., a California corporation, asking $75,000 in damages and $15,000 in attorneys' fees, plus an injunction restraining the defendant from further distributing the Asturia-made "Bel Ami," to which the complainant claims exclusive American rights.

SAG Delegates to D.C.

Hollywood, May 8. — Edward Arnold and Pat Somerset will leave here Saturday for Washington to represent the Screen Actors Guild at the special meeting American Federation of Labor leaders called for next Tuesday to establish permanent arbitration machinery to prevent future breakdowns in the studio labor setup.

Nebraska Theatre Sold

North Bend, Neb., May 8.—Blanche Colbert has purchased the Joy Theatre here from Edward Gannon, who is holding on to his theatre at Schuyler.

Exhibitors* are switching to "REPEAT PERFORMANCE" because "REPEAT PERFORMANCE" is great box office from Eagle-Lion.

*Names on request from EAGLE-LION FILMS

3 Paramount Branch Meets Set to Start

Sessions in Portland, Ore., today; New Orleans, today and tomorrow, and Seattle tomorrow and Monday, will complete the first week of meetings being held at Paramount branches in advance of the opening of the company's 1947 sales drive on Aug. 31.

Mexican Admissions

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing a ceiling for all theatres here. The Metropolitan, Colonial and Coloso set 45 cents as the maximum charge. Mayor Aleman set 85 cents as the ceiling for other houses and specified that it apply only during the first week of new pictures at first-class first-run theatres, most of which had been making 85 cents standard during the runs of most pictures.

The ceiling, not unexpected in the trade because of frequent agitation against what were styled exorbitant theatre prices—a move backed by some Senators and Congressmen—is generally regarded as reasonable. The Metropolitan, Colonial and Coloso, it is said, could well afford to cut their prices because of the higher volume of patronage their sizes command.

The 85 cent ceiling for the first-runs for the first week of a run is but a slight cut, it is said, although, regardless, exhibitors are repeating what they frequently tell the municipal government: that high operating costs, chiefly labor, make it impossible for them to reduce prices.

Meanwhile, exhibitors of Mexico are again counting their annual losses from the enforced closure on May 1 —Mexican Labor Day and most rigidly observed holiday in this country. The closure, again for the explained purpose of permitting theatre union employes to participate in exercises in honor of the 1886 "Martyrs of Chicago," is estimated to have cost the 1,411 theatres in the Republic more than $250,000. May 1 is the only day on which theatres must close in obedience to labor.

MPA Board Elects

(*Continued from page* 1)

tive vice-president, 20th Century-Fox, and John J. O'Connor, Universal vice-president.

Eric A. Johnston, MPA president, told the meeting of his appearances and testimony, previously reported, at hearings before the Congressional committees on un-American affairs and on reciprocal trade agreements. He also expressed optimism concerning industry problems abroad.

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, reported on his recent South American tour.

In addition to those previously mentioned, the session was attended by Nate J. Blumberg; N. Peter Rathvon, Ned E. Depinet, Nicholas M. Schenck, J. Robert Rubin, E. W. Hammons, Herman Robbins, Joyce O'Hara, Francis S. Harmon, Sidney Schreiber, Fred W. DuVall and Edward T. Cheyfitz. Cheyfitz and O'Hara returned to Washington immediately following the meeting.

Monogram Enters Film

Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram International Corp., has entered "Suspense" in the Brussels Festival of Films and Fine Arts, to be held from June 1 to 30.

Appeals Filed

(*Continued from page* 1)

attendants feel there is no chance of it being heard at the current session, ending in mid-June.

One appeal was submitted by four of the five majors—RKO Radio, M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox, and Warner Brothers, with Paramount and the "little three" each submitting their own appeals. The two exhibitor groups were appealing the District Court denial of their right to intervene in the suit. In all, eight separate cases were docketed.

The Justice Department asked the high court to order complete divorcement and prohibit further acquisitions, to ban all clearances, and to require competitive bidding under all circumstances, and on a flat rental.

Warner, M-G-M, 20th-Fox and RKO appealed the ban on admission price-fixing, the ban on general clearance systems, the ban on unreasonable clearances, the ending of the consent decree and the arbitration system, the enjoining of exhibitors from performing existing contracts, the ban on expanding present theatre holdings, and the requirement of owning more than 95 per cent of theatre stock.

Paramount appealed these portions of the District Court decree, plus the block-booking and competitive bidding requirements. Columbia asked for a reversal of the provisions on block-booking, competitive bidding and arbitrary refusal, while United Artists and Universal-International appealed practically all of Section 88.

$1,050,000 Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

Paramount, Columbia, United Artists and National Theatres with violating the Sherman Anti-Trust Act in allegedly attempting to ruin their business through monopolistic pressure in competitive areas.

The Syufys claim a $350,000 loss and are suing for triple damages, as allowed under the act.

Charges include alleged restraint of trade, monopoly in the distribution and showing of films, price-fixing, unfair control of film showings in competitive regions, prevention of equal competition of independents with theatres controlled by the majors, and discrimination against independents in fixing admission charges.

The suit alleges Fox owns, operates or controls 600 theatres and that defendant distributors and their subsidiaries distribute 80 per cent of the country's films.

'Red' Probe on Coast

(*Continued from page* 1)

poser, and of Communistic activities in Hollywood.

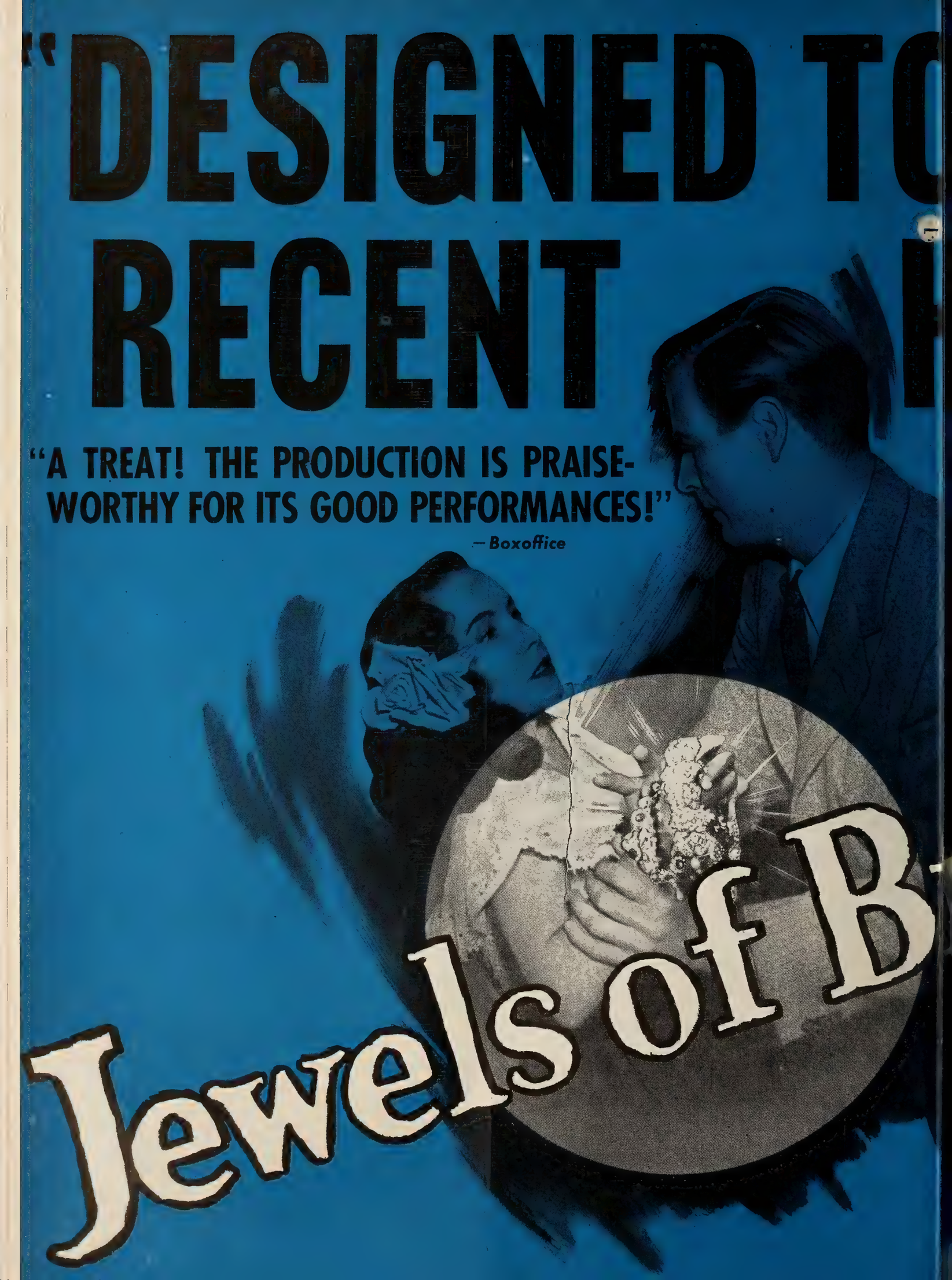
Representative J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of the full committee as well as the sub-unit, who is accompanied by Representatives McDowell and Wood, said the present meetings, which will not be public, were to explore the case for possible full-dress hearings later.

Reagan, asserting that "we have few Communists in the guild," pointed out that "they are about one per cent of our membership." He added: "We know who they are. They are very active, but the real Communists are not in the industry."

"DESIGNED TO
RECENT

"A TREAT! THE PRODUCTION IS PRAISE-WORTHY FOR ITS GOOD PERFORMANCES!"

—Boxoffice



Jewels of B

CASH IN ON EADLINES!"

—Daily Variety

RST RATE! VIOLENT MELODRAMA THAT WILL PLEASE!" —Hollywood Reporter

"EXCITEMENT AND SUSPENSE!" —Film Daily

andenburg

"JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG" with RICHARD TRAVIS MICHELINE CHEIREL · LEONARD STRONG · CAROL THURSTON and Lewis L. Russell · Louis Mercier · Fernando Alvarado · Directed by EUGENE FORDE · Produced by SOL M. WURTZEL PRODUCTIONS, INC. · Original Story by Irving Cummings, Jr., and Robert G. North · Screenplay by Irving Elman, Irving Cummings, Jr., and Robert G. North

Released by 20th Century-Fox

ODDS-ON



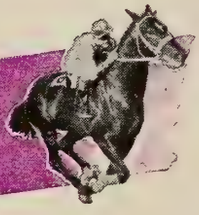
A WINNER

"100% audience picture . . . thrilling racetrack sequences." FILM BULLET

"Laughter . . . tears . . . suspense." MOTION PICTURE HERALD



SURE THING



TOP SELECTION

"Rates high at box offic HOLLYWOOD REPORTE

"A solid entry" BOXOFFICE



MONEY IN THE BANK



IN THE BAG

"Please eve



"Heart warming . . . entertaining . . . for top box office grosses." SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

BIG THEATRES FROM COAST TO COAS

FAVORITE!

BEST BET



"Exhibs can lay odds on huge gross."
HOLLYWOOD M. P. REVIEW

"Attracts women."
THE EXHIBITOR

CAN'T LOSE



OUT FRONT



"Box office honors."
FILM DAILY

nember of the family."
MOTION PICTURE DAILY

A CINCH

FRANK BORZAGE'S

THAT'S MY MAN

Don AMECHE *starring* *Catherine* McLEOD
Lovely Star of "I've Always Loved You"

with
Roscoe Karns • John Ridgely • Kitty Irish • Joe Frisco
and Joe Hernandez, Nationally Famous Racing Announcer
Produced and Directed by FRANK BORZAGE
Written by Steve Fisher and Bradley King

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

DON WILL BE PLAYING THE FAVORITE!

AVAILABLE *NOW!*

Admiral RICHARD E. BYRD

IN

"DISCOVERY"

A THRILLING 90 MINUTE MOTION PICTURE

The Greatest Adventure Story of all Time!

Based on Admiral Byrd's own BEST SELLERS "DISCOVERY" and "ALONE"

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WORLD PREMIERE BOSTON—JUNE 5th

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 92 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, MAY 12, 1947 TEN CENTS

Names . . . *in Today's News*

WILLIAM J. KUPPER resigned on Friday as general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, Tom J. Connors, distribution vice-president announced, and was appointed managing director of 20th Century-Fox International Corp. by Murray Silverstone, president of the latter company.



William J. Kupper

In his new post, Kupper succeeds Otto W. Bolle, who after many years of service, resigned because of ill health.

Kupper also becomes managing director of British Movietone News and will represent 20th-Fox as a member of the board of Gaumont-British in London. Silverstone added that "Kupper's knowledge of the American market will be valuable to the company's production arrangements in Great Britain." Both will sail for London on July 2.

Polangin Named Enterprise Studio Publicity Head in N.Y.

Frederick N. Polangin has been appointed Eastern publicity director for Enterprise, Robert S. Taplinger, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity announced. During the past year, Polangin handled Enterprise publicity in Washington where he operated his own publicity firm.

A former Washington newsman, Polangin was publicity director of the U. S. Department of Commerce under the late Harry L. Hopkins. He also was in the Motion Picture Division under Gene Markey.

Ben Washer Will Join Para. As Eastern Publicity Chief

Ben Washer, Eastern publicity manager for Samuel Goldwyn, and former publicity director for United Artists here, will become Eastern publicity manager for Paramount, effective next month, Curtis Mitchell, Paramount

(*Continued on page* 8)

Key Weekly Gross Average Is $16,292

Field Reports Cover 170 First-Run Situations

Theatre grosses slipped again last month as heavy spring rains dampened business in various parts of the country, according to reports on some 170 key situations received from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents.

April's weekly average gross of $16,292 per theatre compares with the $16,769 average recorded for the previous month. (April of last year brought a weekly average gross of $17,839.).

"The Best Years of Our Lives,"

(*Continued on page* 11)

U. S. Approves 17 Additional Houses

WASHINGTON, May 11.—Applications to construct, repair or complete 17 additional theatres have been approved by the Government.

Largest group, of seven theatres, was approved on the basis of veterans' ownership. These were: G. R. Bould, Inc., Oakland, Me., theatre shell; Bleecker and Jones, La Mesa, Cal., partial structure of theatre; James B. Howell, Jr., San Mateo County, Cal., drive-in; W. F. Greene, Williston, S. C., theatre; Philip Brady, Rio Hondre, Tex., theatre; J. C. Greene, Johnson, S. C., theatre; Denver Drive-in Theatre Corp., Araphoe County, Colo., drive-in.

Four new theatres were approved on the basis of providing an essential community facility: for Albert Orear, Bonner Springs, Kans.; Ike Weiner, Washington; Vincent Laica, New Baltimore, Mich.; Alexander Kiriakides, Greenville, S. C. Other projects were also given the "green light."

Rank is Going Into Theatre Video in Fall

Will Talk with Sears on United Artists Product

J. Arthur Rank interests in England will experiment with theatre television in the fall in two or three West End theatres in London, J. Arthur Rank announced upon his arrival here aboard the *Queen Elizabeth* on Friday.

He said he had applied for a charter in England to transmit television, and added that when he visits Chicago Wednesday, he will confer with A. N. Rauland, television engineer, on the subject. Rank and Rauland are exchanging television research information.

Rank, moving in rapid-fire order, swept through business conferences, luncheons, a radio talk and private dinners, with hardly a moment's rest during his first day in New York.

In a pier interview, Rank, in addition to his television announcement, said he would confer with Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists vice-president in

(*Continued on page* 11)

Allied's First Deep South Unit in View

NEW ORLEANS, May 11.—National Allied States' first penetration of the Deep South, traditionally an MPTOA stronghold, is regarded here as having been successfully launched with the formation last week of Allied Theatre Owners of Louisiana-Mississippi, at a

(*Continued on page* 11)

Hollywood Spreads Its Royal Rug for Variety

All Para. Incumbents Up for Reelection

All 16 board members of Paramount are candidates for reelection at the company's annual stockholders' meeting to be held here on June 17. Immediately after the meeting the directors will convene to elect officers.

The present board comprises Barney Balaban, Stephen Callaghan, Y. Frank Freeman, Harvey D. Gibson, Leonard H. Goldenson, A. Conger Goodyear, Stanton Griffis, Duncan G. Harris, John D. Hertz, Austin C. Keough, Earl I. McClintock, Maurice Newton, Charles M. Reagan, E. V. Richards, Edwin L. Weisl and Adolph Zukor.

Officers include: Zukor, chairman; Balaban, president; Griffis, executive committee chairman; vice-presidents Freeman, Keough, Reagan, Henry Ginsberg, Goldenson, Paul Raibourn; Fred Mohrhardt, treasurer; Robert H. O'Brien, secretary.

LOS ANGELES, May 11.—Hollywood's famed royal red rug of welcome was never spread so far, so wide and so freely as it is for the 1,200 delegates to the 11th annual Variety Clubs International convention — Robert J. O'Donnell is Variety Club chief — that opens officially on Wednesday with headquarters already established at Los Angeles' Ambassador Hotel, where registration begins tomorrow.



Robert J. O'Donnell

Delegates arriving for the convention will be welcomed at Los Angeles'

(*Continued on page* 10)

4 Reviews Today

"Northwest Outpost" and "Sarge Goes to College," page 6. "Black Narcissus" and "Land of the Lawless," page 8.



Saluting Variety Clubs

In Convention at Los Angeles, May 13-17



Personal Mention

HOWARD DIETZ, Loew's advertising-publicity chief, flew to Europe over the weekend and will return here June 9.

•

EDWARD L. HYMAN, Paramount Theatres Service vice-president, and MAX FELLERMAN, theatre executive, were in San Francisco over the weekend and will stop in Salt Lake City, Minneapolis and Kansas City on their return trip to New York.

•

RUSSELL HOLMAN, Paramount Eastern production head, who sailed for England this weekend on the *Queen Elizabeth* for a check of production activities abroad, will be away about a month.

•

EDWARD L. WALTON, Republic assistant general sales manager, is expected in Seattle today and is due in Minneapolis Thursday before returning to the home office.

•

HAROLD DUNN, Producers Releasing Corp. assistant sales manager, has returned to New York after a two-week tour of branch offices and a visit to the studio.

•

CLAUD MORRIS, Selznick Releasing Organization exploitation head, after returning here today from Washington and Philadelphia, is slated to leave for Chicago.

•

RAYMOND GALLO, advertising manager of *Better Theatres*, of *Motion Picture Herald*, returned to New York on Friday from a five-week trip in the field.

•

HARRY M. KALMINE, president and general manager of Warner Theatres, left New York over the weekend for the Coast.

•

ANDRE LE LARGE, of European Copyrights and Distribution, Inc., has left New York for Paris to buy foreign films for U. S. release.

•

LIGE BRIEN, Eagle-Lion assistant exploitation manager, and MRS. BRIEN have become parents of their second son.

•

JERRY PICKMAN, Eagle-Lion assistant advertising-publicity chief, is due here today from Zanesville, O.

•

NIKITAS D. DIPSON, Batavia, N. Y., exhibitor, has returned home after a visit to Greece.

•

D. A. DORAN, Paramount studio executive, left here for the Coast on Saturday.

•

MOE KERMAN, of Favorite Films, has returned here from Virginia City.

•

SAM WOOD, producer, is expected to return here today from Washington.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

MORRIS LOEWENSTEIN, secretary of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, is to be applauded for keeping alive discussion of a vital exhibitor project, the proposed Motion Picture Forum, despite almost complete indifference among exhibitors.

Addressing the Los Angeles convention of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners last week, Loewenstein decried the present tendency to await the Supreme Court decision in the industry anti-trust suit before proceeding with organization of the Forum. In so doing he differed not only with his own organization, the MPTOA, which advanced the Forum idea originally and which now appears content to pack it in moth balls, but also with his host in Los Angeles.

The PCCITO is remembered as having been among the first and the very few organizations which effectively chilled the Forum plan by chanting the meaningless slogan, "Wait till the Supreme Court has decided."

•

Loewenstein is to be congratulated for his disregard of false niceties in championing a project in which he believes before a group which helped to condemn it. He pleaded also for concerted exhibitor action in an effort to obtain reduction of the wartime admission tax.

The House Ways and Means committee is scheduled to begin hearings a week from today on new Federal tax legislation for introduction next year.

There is no organization, there are no spokesmen representative of all exhibition, to speak for theatre operators before the committee. There might well have been such an organization had the Motion Picture Forum been brought into being without delay. Taxation affecting all ranks of exhibition might properly have been made one of its primary concerns.

Perhaps some of those who succeeded in stalling, if not completely wrecking the Forum, can explain to their followers just what the Supreme Court ruling in the anti-trust case next year has to do with a fight to be waged now against wartime Federal taxation, the weight of which is increasingly felt at the postwar box office.

• •

This publication joins the industry in saluting the Variety Clubs as they gather in Los Angeles for their annual convention this week.

The magnificent humanitarian work of these showmen is known to its thousands of beneficiaries, but so little is it publicized that few outside the organization are aware of the scope of its multitudinous good deeds.

The story of the Variety Clubs is not come upon easily on the rialtos of the great cities but it is a familiar and an intimate one in scores of hospitals, fresh air camps, rest homes and underprivileged neighborhoods. It is a story of the helping hand extended to the helpless, of hope and cheer instilled in the desolate.

The work of the Variety Clubs is something in which all show business may take pride and in which all show business should join.

• •

While shrill pipings of pessimistic box-office tidings are heard as the post-war boom levels off to normalcy, the weekly box-office gross reports in the columns of MOTION PICTURE DAILY make better and better reading. The reports bear out the pronouncement of every experienced distribution and theatre man to the effect that "If the picture is good its business is good."

Fortunately, the number of good pictures increases with every week. There are so many outstanding performers currently it would be difficult to name them all even if space permitted. But notably, there is the consistently great record of "The Best Years of Our Lives," the vigor and staying power of "The Egg and I," the amazing record of "The Jolson Story," which is replaying first runs for grosses equal to those of its first time around. And there is "Duel."

There are many sturdy releases consistently hitting well above house averages everywhere, like "Sea of Grass" and "The Yearling," "The Homestretch," "The Macomber Affair," "The Farmer's Daughter," "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," "It's a Wonderful Life," "Smash-Up," "Blaze of Noon," "Stallion Road" and many others.

It is an old maxim in the industry that business is as good as the product; that good pictures will dispel its every ill.

The gross reports identify the celluloid with the highest vitamin content.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES P. CUNNINGHAM

A FLUSTERED gent approached assistant manager Charlie Levison at Loew's Metropolitan Theatre in Brooklyn the other day and demanded that his admission money be returned, giving this explanation:

"I saw da pitch, boss, at another moom pitch."

Charlie, a cool calculator, logically inquired, "How could you have seen this picture when Loew's Met is a first-run theatre and the picture hasn't yet played anywhere else in Brooklyn?"

"What's s'madder, boss," the patron retorted, "I saw de pitch in da theatre 'round da corner."

The Metropolitan has two entrances, one on Fulton Street, the other around the corner, on Livingston Street!

▽

The name of concertman Yehudi Menuhin has long intrigued us. Even more so does the name of his sister, concert-gal Hephzibah Menuhin.

▽

The Bombay Board of Censors has ruled that henceforth all drinking scenes are to be eliminated from motion pictures. That is, all drinking scenes that are not "absolutely necessary." Ahem.

▽

And that never-in-error *New York Times* comes up with this one: "Loew's, Inc., Metro's *errant* company, is the largest and most powerful distributor of motion pictures."

▽

Laboraticians of RCA have turned their attention from improving tubes for motion picture sound reproducers, radios, and what not, to a tube called the "Selectron," which has been designed for use in electronic calculating machines through which it is possible to complete the multiplication of two numbers of as many as 12 digits (one thousand billions) in a hundred-millionth of a second.

▽

Posted prominently in the North Carolina picture palaces of Charlie Picquet are signs reading: "Popcorn, peanuts, soft drinks and lunches not permitted."

▽

No reflection intended, but Mexican screen-player Mario (Cantinflas) Moreno has quit his picture production union job to concentrate on acting and lemon planting.

▽

***Flash!*, from Luis Becerra Celis, our Mexico City correspondent:**

"Confidence in local theatre business, currently under par, is manifested by Exhibitor Cava, operator of several theatres here, who intends to chase out the tramps and other vagrants long housed in an idle theatre of his, renovate it, and arrange to inaugurate it as a 1,500-seater in July."

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Newsreel Parade

THE presentation of "Certificates of Merit" to exhibitor leaders Si Fabian, Ernest V. Richards and Robert B. Wilby is highlighted in current newsreels. Among other events are: May Day celebrations around the world; a new safety device for air travel; and the Royal Family departing from South Africa for home. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 73—May Day in Europe and Japan. African natives dance for French president. British Royal Family sails for home. Scientists sail primitive craft. Aviation: Radar safety device, French giant seaplane. Navy awards Merit citations to theatre executives Si Fabian, Robert B. Wilby and Ernest V. Richards. Fashions and furs. Sports: Auto Grand Prix, yachting regatta.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 271—New radar of Howard Hughes gives airliners "seeing eye". "Miracle healer" rushes to U. S. from Cairo. Palestine prison blasted, British in big manhunt. May Day film reports from around the world. President Peron and wife attend fiesta in Argentina. Theatremen Si Fabian, Ernest V. Richards and Robert B. Wilby honored by Navy. President Auriol of France tours African colony. Hospitalized "vets" design snappy bonnets.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 74—New airline safety through radar. Theatre officials Si Fabian, Ernest V. Richards and Robert B. Wilby honored by Navy. Six men on a raft on an expedition. President Peron hailed at wine festival. India: Mountbatten visits troubled area. May Day around the world.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 76—British Royalty ends South African tour. Dance strikers in Conga line. May Day parades around the world. Healer flies to aid ill one. Steeple-jacks repair tower. Mt. Rainier race for silver skiis.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 37—Radar device aids blind flying. May Day celebration in Moscow and Trieste. Modern explorers in a small raft to sail the Pacific. African natives dance for French President Auriol. Mermaids test waterproof hairdos in Los Angeles. National film awards to British stars and producers in London. Theatre officials Si Fabian, E. V. Richards and R. B. Wilby receive "Certificates of Merit." Porpoise roundup in Florida.

Loew's in Mecca Bldg. In About Six Months

Purchase of the 1600 Broadway (Mecca) Building at 48th Street, here, by Loews' for the housing of all Loew's International departments and other Loew activities, was confirmed by the company at the weekend. Contract of sale has been closed and transfer of title by the Central Hanover Trust Co., the sellers, is expected before the end of the month. The building, to be called "Loew's International Building," will be occupied in part by the company in about six months. Renovations will be made meanwhile.

Univ.-Int'l Building Delayed Two Months

Further construction set-backs will delay the completion of Universal-International's new home office another two months, a company official reports. The building, located on Park Avenue here, originally was planned for last year, material shortages made this impossible, and now the second delay is necessary.

Jenkins Names Gewinner

ATLANTA, May 11.—Holt Gewinner, Jr., has been named publicity director for the Georgia Theatre Co., here, succeeding Harvey Smith, William K. Jenkins, company president, announces.

St. Louis Industry Pledges UJA Aid

ST. LOUIS, May 11.—Fullest support to the United Jewish Appeal drive was pledged by industry leaders here following an address by Barney Balaban, national chairman, at an organization meeting at the Chase Hotel. About 40 of the area's showmen attended. Pledges and contributions showed an increase of three times over the previous year.

"I am particularly anxious that the motion picture industry does the best job in this campaign that it is capable of doing," said Balaban. "Show business has a tradition for philanthropy. We achieved a magnificent record during the war. Give this drive the showmanship, the know-how and the enthusiasm which you can deliver and which the 1947 UJA deserves," Balaban added.

Accompanying Balaban on the trip is Sam Shain of 20th Century-Fox, and Peter Colwin, a national director of UJA. Following the meeting Balaban and Shain left for Los Angeles.

Among those who attended were: Joseph Ansell, Edward Arthur, Sol Blank, Paul Beisman, Herbert Benin, Lester Bona, Russell A. Bovin, John Caporal, Maurice Davis, Andrew Dietz, Barney Diamond, Chris Efthin, Charles Goldman, Herman H. Gorelick, Sol Hankin, Clarence Kaiman, Sam Komm, David P. Komm, Nat Kopler, Lester Kropp, Paul Frueger, Theodore Lending, Joe Litvag, Julius Leventhal, George Plis-kos, Barney Rosenthal, Matt Schulter, Maurice Schwitzer, William Sheroan, Frank Speros, Nat E. Steinberg, Fred Wehrenberg, and Clarence Turley.

MPA Board Includes A. Warner, Perkins

The fact that only six distribution companies of the Motion Picture Association added a second director to the MPA board last week is explained by Warners already having had two representatives on the board, Albert Warner, vice-president and treasurer, and Robert Perkins, vice-president and general manager.

Each of the seven MPA member companies thus have two representatives, the others being: Jack Cohn and Abe Schneider, Columbia; Nicholas M. Schenck and Joseph R. Vogel, Loew's; Barney Balaban and Austin Keough, Paramount; N. Peter Rathvon and John W. Whitaker, RKO; Spyros Skouras and W. C. Michel, 20th Century-Fox; Nate J. Blumberg and John J. O'Connor, Universal.

Grant SRO Franchise To Adelman, Wessel

CINCINNATI, May 11.—Meyer Adelman and Bud Wessel have been granted the franchise for distribution of Selznick Releasing Organization product in this territory.

They have opened headquarters in the Film Building, taking over quarters formerly occupied by Popular Pictures which has taken the offices of National Theatre Supply Co. The latter has moved to the old M-G-M quarters which were vacated when M-G-M occupied a new building.

Warner Sees Truman

WASHINGTON, May 11—Harry Warner paid a 15-minute "courtesy" call at the White House Friday, but would give no information on what they discussed.

Center Sought for 'Trumph' Opening

George Schaefer, in charge of Enterprise distribution, has been conferring with Gus Eyssell, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall, on the possibility of securing the Center Theatre here for "Arch of Triumph" in the fall.

British Star Costs Heavy, Too: Hazen

Although the British have "demonstrated clearly that they know how to make pictures, and to make good ones," they still have heavy problems of costs and high salaries for starring players, Joseph Hazen of Wallis-Hazen Productions, said upon his arrival here Friday aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth*. He added that competition for stars is boosting costs for the British industry, and that there are not enough British stars to guarantee the success of all the British films.

Hazen feels that there will be no currency restriction, and that if any restriction is ordered, it will be a restriction on the number of American films entering England.

Para. Buys 72,300 Additional Shares

Paramount continued the increased tempo of its stock-purchasing program last month, having acquired 72,300 shares of its common securities during April to bring its holdings to 265,000 since the buying program was announced by president Barney Balaban in a letter to stockholders last November.

Previous monthly purchase totals were: November, 23,000; December, 35,000; January, 38,408; February, 23,792, and March, 72,500. Closing price for Paramount common on Friday was 24⅜.

SGP Signs Three-Film Deal with Zenith

HOLLYWOOD, May 11.—On the eve of its first anniversary and a stockholders and sales conferences of Screen Guild Productions, John J. Jones, president, announces consummation of a releasing deal with the newly-organized Zenith Pictures, Inc., for three pictures in 1947-1948 program.

The Screen Guild annual meeting, which will convene at the Hollywood Roosevelt for five days, beginning tomorrow, has the following schedule: registration, Monday; board of directors meet Tuesday; stockholders' meeting and election of officers, Wednesday; general sales conferences and screening of product, Thursday and Friday.

Reagin Succeeds Avery

MEMPHIS, May 11.—R. V. Reagin, office manager of RKO Radio, was named branch manager of the company's exchange here to succeed A. M. Avery, who will leave Saturday to become vice-president of Flexer Drivein Theatres, Inc.

Expect 18 UK Color Pictures Yearly

By 1949, Technicolor, Ltd., London, will be processing 18 pictures yearly, Kay Harrison, joint managing director of the firm, revealed in an interview following his arrival here Friday aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth*.

Harrison said Technicolor, Ltd., is now processing five or six films yearly, explaining that lack of materials had prevented increased production.

The film plans to spend $500,000 on a UK expansion program, he said, adding that the firm's present site in London will be taken over for an airport, and that arrangements have been made for a new laboratory at Denham.

"We have four Technicolor cameras now and expect to acquire more," Harrison said. After sufficient materiel is obtained, the company intends to operate in Paris, Rome and Madrid, with servicing handled in London.

Sears Answers Ohio ITO on Chaplin Film

Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists vice-president in charge of distribution, issued the following statement on Friday in reply to the resolution adopted last week by the ITO of Ohio which recommended that exhibitors refrain from booking Charlie Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux" because of Chaplin's failure to become a United States citizen and because of his personal and political activities and views:

"This is not United Artists' first experience with the publicity-seeking methods of the paid secretary of this Ohio exhibitor group. In the course of almost every year, Mr. P. J. Wood can find some cause on which he and his organization can take a militant and loud stand.

"In this instance, Mr. Wood has latched on to the arguments already advanced by others, all of which have been answered by Mr. Chaplin to the evident satisfaction of the public.

"The only element in Wood's protest which causes us to even dignify it with a response is the fact that in it we see another abortive effort of a small, vociferous, bigoted group to force its will and its judgment upon the American public. No matter what they call it, it is still censorship; as such it should be combated and defeated at every turn.

"United Artists as a company, and I as an individual believe that it is the right of the American public to choose its entertainment for itself. We believe that it is presumptuous and un-American for any non-sovereign to take the responsibility of selecting for the public the motion pictures it should see."

Name Baecher Aide In Anti-Trust Agency

WASHINGTON, May 11.—John Ford Baecher has been named first assistant in the Justice Department's anti-trust division. He was transferred from a similar position in the claims division where he worked for some time with newly appointed Assistant Attorney General Sonnett.

Vote on Sunday Films

SPRINGFIELD, Tenn., May 11.—A vote on Sunday pictures will be held here on June 1.

She's His Glamor Gi
He's Her Guy!

Elope to Mexico City with
Shirley, gay and grown-up...
and Guy, ready for romance...
in a very funny story of
marriage in the making!



RKO PRESENTS

Shirley *Franchot* *Gu*

TEMPLE · TONE · MA

Nationally Advertised to 106,513,385 CIRCULATION—
in Life, Saturday Evening Post, Look, Liberty, Cosmopolitan, Woman's Home Companion, Ladies' Home Journal, Red Book, Fan Magazines . . . American Weekly, This Week and Parade, circulated in 64 important Sunday newspapers.


SON
Honeymoon
RKO RADIO PICTURES
A WILLIAM KEIGHLEY PICTURE
with LINA ROMAY • GENE LOCKHART • CORINNA MURA • GRANT MITCHELL
Produced by WARREN DUFF • Directed by WILLIAM KEIGHLEY • Screen Play by Michael Kanin • Based on a Story by Vicki Baum

Eight Finish, Eight Start On the Coast

HOLLYWOOD, May 11. — Production maintained last week's level in the over-all picture, with eight pictures going from shooting stage to cutting room and eight new undertakings going before the cameras. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "Prince of Thieves," with Jon Hall, Patricia Morrison, Alan Mowbray, Adele Jergens, Michael Duane.

Finished: "Two Blondes and a Redhead."

Shooting: "The Man from Colorado," "Assigned to Treasury" (Kennedy-Buchman).

Eagle-Lion

Started: "Adventures of Casanova," with Arturo de Cordova, Noreen Nash, Lucille Bremer, Turhan Bey, John Sutton, George Tobias.

Finished: "Love from a Stranger."

M-G-M

Started: "Cass Timberlane," with Spencer Tracy, Lana Turner, Mary Astor, Albert Dekker.

Shooting: "Alias a Gentleman," "The Pirate," "Good News."

Monogram

Shooting: "Robin Hood of Monterey," "The Hunted."

Paramount

Started: "Dream Girl," with Betty Hutton, Macdonald Carey, Virginia Field, Walter Abel, Peggy Wood, Patric Knowles.

Shooting: "Whispering Smith," "Shaggy."

PRC

Shooting: "Tomorrow You Die," "It's Moider."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Memory of Love," "Mourning Becomes Electra," "Fighting Father Dunne," "The Bishop's Wife" (Goldwyn).

Finished: "Tycoon."

Republic

Started: "On Old Spanish Trails," with Roy Rogers, Tito Guizar, Jane Frazee, Sons of the Pioneers; "It's Murder She Says," with Adele Mara, Robert Scott, Robert Armstrong, Adrian Booth.

Finished: "Robin Hood of Texas," "Along the Oregon Trail," "The Flame."

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Off to Buffalo," "Foxes of Harrow," "Kiss of Death," "Scudda Hoo, Scudda Hay."

United Artists

Started: "Intrigue" (Bischoff), with George Raft, June Havoc, Dan Seymour, Helene Carter.

Finished: "Marauders" (Hopalong Cassidy).

Universal-International

Started: "Wistful Widow of Wagon Gap," with Abbott and Costello, Marjorie Main, George Cleveland.

Finished: "Something in the Wind."

Shooting: "Exile," "Secret Beyond the Door," "Lost Moment."

Warner

Shooting: "Silver River," "Treasure of Sierra Madre," "Whiplash," "Voice of the Turtle," "Two Guys from Texas."

Reviews

"Northwest Outpost"

(*Republic*)

RESPLENDENTLY embellished with production values and impressively stocked with marquee names, "Northwest Outpost" measures up as an outstanding Republic box-office contender. It is a hearty musical, delightfully scored by Rudolf Friml and ringing with the golden voices of Nelson Eddy and beautiful Ilona Massey, who previously appeared together in "Balalaika." Also provided are: the sinister villainy of Joseph Schildkraut, the whimsical comedy of Elsa Lanchester, the ebullience of Hugo Haas, and many other characterizations in a romantic tale about love and intrigue in a Russian colony in California some 100 years ago.

The screenplay, by Elizabeth Meehan and Richard Sale, from an original by Angela Stuart, presents a stock plot for the framing of the splendiferous sets and charming costumings which heighten the mood of romance created by the musical love-making of Eddy and Miss Massey. Eddy plays a daring American frontiersman who fills a position of high trust in the Russian outpost and penal colony, which is governed by a robust, good-natured Czarist prince (Haas). Miss Massey, playing a Russian lady of rank, goes to the colony with a false passport to secretly aid her prisoner-husband (Schildkraut) to escape, because he has threatened to expose her father as a political enemy of the Czar. The love which blossomed at first sight between the lady and Eddy is jeopardized, of course, when he discovers the nature of her mission. But the complication resolves itself into a happy reunion for the lovers when Schildkraut is killed in attempting to escape to Russia aboard a Chinese junk.

The Friml score comprises six melodious numbers including: "Nearer and Dearer," "Raindrops on a Drum," "Tell Me with Your Eyes" and "Love Is the Time." Additionally, The American G.I. Chorus renders two Russian Easter hymns in commendable fashion, and background music is rich with quality, provided under the able management of Robert Armbruster. Director Allan Dwan, who also served as associate producer, kept the proceedings keyed to a sparkling pace. The picture will be best received by music lovers, of course, but it does offer enough in the way of action to please devotees of outdoor drama, too.

Running time, 91 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"Sarge Goes to College"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood

IN this item in the "'Teen Agers" series the cast is promoted from high school to junior college, which makes them more plausible, but the circumstances to be talked about in the exploitation of the picture is that not only the Russ Morgan and Jack McVea orchestras contribute their wares to the proceedings—the latter doing "Open the Door, Richard," by the way—but a group including such jive stars as Wingy Malone, Abe Lyman, Jerry Wald and Les Paul participate in a jam session which, by the juke-box favorites record, ought to bring the junior set to the box-office on the double.

The story this time concerns a young war veteran, played by Alan Hale, Jr., who goes to junior college while awaiting an operation. Producer-director Will Jason and associate producer Maurice Duke handle this timely material, supplied by Hal Collins' screenplay, satisfactorily without overdoing the rehabilitation theme. Freddie Stewart heads the cast, as usual, and the talent roster includes June Preisser, Frankie Darro, Warren Mills, Noel Neill, Arthur Walsh, Monte Collins, Frank Cady, Margaret Brayton, Selmer Jackson and many others.

Running time, 63 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, May 10.

THALIA BELL

Ex-Mexican President In Film Finance Co.

MEXICO CITY, May 11.—Gen. Abelardo L. Rodriguez, former Mexican president and now governor of Sonora, is a large share-holder in the recently-established Credite Cinematografico Mexicano, S. A., a $6,000,000 company which will finance the Mexican film industry, and EMA, the Mexican newsreel. He is also building four theatres in the northwest and may increase that to six.

Keaton Mexican Film

MEXICO CITY, May 11.—Buster Keaton is returning here soon to make his second picture in Mexico, "The Bandit."

Snyder Denies New British Loan Talk

WASHINGTON, May 11.—Secretary of the Treasury John Snyder declares that there is no immediate prospect of another British loan request. He told newsmen that, as far as he knew, Britain had no new application in mind.

To date, Britain has used $1,100,000,000 of the $3,750,000,000 loan granted last summer.

Large Latin Demand For Radios Seen

WASHINGTON, May 11.—Approximately $17,000,000 worth of radio receivers will be purchased from the United States by Latin-American countries, the Commerce Department announces here. Brazil will be the heaviest buyer, with the purchase of an estimated 200,000 sets. The demand is also expected to be great in Mexico, Chile and Cuba.

India Business Up, Cambata Reports

Production of films in India is increasing rapidly, but lack of theatres cuts down the possible attendance, according to Shiavax C. Cambata, Indian theatre owner, who is visiting in this country. Cambata points out that only 1,000 theatres are in India, with its population of more than 400,000,000. Shortage of materials has checked theatre building, he adds.

Cambata feels that the program of the new Indian government, designed to reduce illiteracy, would aid the industry, since the government plans to use motion pictures as its chief method of education. He said that the government plans to use 16mm. educational shorts in the school system.

Cambata's Eros Theatre in Bombay has two innovations: a restaurant and a special parking lot for his patrons. He and his wife will return to India after three weeks. In addition to studying the industry here, Cambata, who owns several colleries, is investigating latest coal mining machinery.

$18,662 More for Greek Orphan Drive

A final total of $18,662 was collected by home offices for the war orphans of Greece, Sol A. Schwartz, home office chairman of the appeal, reports.

Contributions include: 20th Century-Fox, $4,573; Paramount, $3,955; RKO Radio, $3,893; Warner, $2,272; Universal - International, $2,150; Loew's, $634; Columbia, $393; United Artists, $330; Eagle-Lion-PRC, $308, and Monogram, $152.

Mexicans Band for Government Loan

MEXICO CITY, May 11.—Small-scale producers are forming what they intend to be a company strong enough to meet competition from big producers and be eligible for an important share of the $2,000,000 credit which the Federal Government is reported to be preparing to allow producers to relieve financial worries that have become progressively acute since private banks shut off loans, several months ago.

Mexican Union Called Unfair for Strikes

MEXICO CITY, May 11.—The Employers Confederation of the Mexican Republic has accused in a public statement the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union, Mexico's original film labor organization, of being unfair to the anti-strike policy of President Miguel Aleman's Government by allegedly engineering sympathy strikes against exhibitors in towns other than those where it calls strikes for reason.

Two Resume Exhibition

MEXICO CITY, May 11.—Exhibition has resumed in two theatres of Ciudad Victoria, capital of Tamaulipas State, on the Gulf Coast, after a month's suspension because of a strike of attaches. The employees accepted a 25 per cent pay hike and some other concessions; they had demanded a 50 per cent increase.

Now turn to the second chapter in the blazing success story of this 6-star *Paramount* best-seller and you'll find:

"'Blaze of Noon' at the Brooklyn Paramount outgrossed 'California' and all other top Paramount attractions since 'Blue Skies'!"

BLAZE OF NOON

starring

ANNE BAXTER · WILLIAM HOLDEN
SONNY TUFTS · WILLIAM BENDIX
STERLING HAYDEN · HOWARD DA SILVA



by Ernest K. Gann
Author of "Island in the Sky"

Produced by
Robert Fellows
Directed by
JOHN FARROW
Screenplay by
Frank Wead and Arthur Sheekman

Coming Events

Today—Motion Picture Association dinner for J. Arthur Rank, Waldorf-Astoria, New York.
May 12-16—Screen Guild national sales conference and board and stockholders meetings, Hollywood.
May 13 — Monogram and Allied Artists regional sales meeting, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles.
May 13—United Artists board of directors meeting, New York.
May 13-17—Variety Clubs International convention, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles.
May 15—International Radio Conference, Atlantic City.
May 16—Motion Picture Associates presentation of "Beacon Award" to Sam Rinzler, Waldorf-Astoria, New York.
May 18-19 — Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio annual convention, Dashler-Wallich Hotel, Columbus.
June 3-4—Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Arkansas meeting, Little Rock, Ark.

Names in the News

(*Continued from page* 1)

national director of advertising-publicity announces.

Before entering the industry, Washer was drama editor and columnist for the *New York World-Telegram*, and was a representative for legitimate theatre producers, including George Abbott, Arthur Hopkins, William Harris and Norman Bel Geddes. He served with the U. S. Army during World War II.

At Paramount Gordon Swarthou will continue as publicity-exploitation coordinator, with Sid Mesibov as assistant manager of exploitation, and C. N. Odell as New York press chief.

Murray Silverstone Promotes Rosenvald and Three Others

Roger Rosenvald has been appointed 20th Century-Fox supervisor of the southern division of Brazil with headquarters in Sao Paulo, reports Murray Silverstone, president of 20th Century-Fox International.

Alberto Rezende has been named supervisor of the northern division, with headquarters in Rio de Janeiro and will be assisted by Armando Pavan, who also has been promoted.

Heitor Passerino has been named manager of Porto Alegre, Geraldo Morra is the new manager in Sao Paulo, and Rudolph Schoham has been appointed traveling sales analyst and branch auditor.

Hitchcock May Film Here

Alfred Hitchcock will arrive in New York today from Hollywood to inspect possible sites for filming his first independent picture on his own, to be based on the Patrick Hamilton play, "The Rope." A large part of the film may be shot around Medical Center along the East River. While here Hitchcock will be joined by Sidney L. Bernstein, English circuit operator, in launching their new Transatlantic Pictures Corp.

Reviews

"Black Narcissus"

(*The Archers—G.F.D.—British*) *London*

MICHAEL POWELL and Emeric Pressburger—purveyors of the unusual—submit one which may bewilder the moron and the frequenter of the "industrial" type of theatre, but which will bring rare delight to all others. "Black Narcissus," patterned in loveliness, adds further lustre to the mounting prestige of British pictures. Which is not to say that it is one of those caviar things which rate esteem of the snooty snob order. It concerns itself with the simple elemental things. Its makers throw in with a sort of lush opulence the overtones of Technicolor magnificence, scenes of breath-catching beauty and cunning (oft-times sly) insight into human frailty which take the picture completely out of the common-rut category; which, additionally, should earn for it ripe dividends among showmen who have the wit to know what it is all about.

The tale of the cloister and the heart is an old piece of film usage. In this latest edition, a little cluster of nuns belonging to an Anglo-Catholic order are sent to the topmost peak of the Himalayan range to set up a school and hospital. It is no Shangri-la location. A disturbing wind whirls around the mountain-top continually. There is the local ruler's English agent to be contended with; he being a mixture of cynical caddishness, self-confessed degeneracy, not to say disturbing and extreme physical manliness; he exhibits qualities which ill conform with the serenity of the veil.

Frustration and fretfulness beset the lonely off-shoot of the convent. One of the sisters, going mad in that outpost of frustration, abjures her vows, declares her love for the agent, and kills herself in an endeavor to throw the Sister Superior down one of those Himalayan abysses. The rains break and the Sisterhood—beaten to surrender in outward seeming by the fretful frustration but in reality triumphant—ride down to their Mother-house again.

The stark tale, told starkly, would have a scarifying impact. But Powell and Pressburger illumine it with tenderness and so much soft understanding that its starkness becomes enveloped in an aura of magic. Said one woman auditor at the preview, "It's a picture to swoon over." Women the world over will feel like swooning.

Alfred Junge did the decor of the piece, Jack Cardiff the photography. Between them they have contrived a background hitherto and without doubt unsurpassed on the British screen. The Sisterhood is played most beautifully by a properly diversified band of young women led by Deborah Kerr, brightest adornment in the view of many of Britain's screen. Kathleen Byron is that tragic sister who goes berserk. Hers is a lovely, exquisitely tactful, performance. There is also Sabu as an Indian Prince, and Jean Simmons as a bedizenned and bejeweled naughty little Himalyan girl. And there is David Farrar as the English agent. In the eyes of the connoisseur Farrar has been long on the threshold of achievement. Here, beyond peradventure, he enters the choice portals. The Powell-Pressburger team could so easily this time have made a picture of some embarrassment. Instead they turn in one of superb loveliness.

Running time, 100 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

PETER BURNUP

"Land of the Lawless"

(*Monogram*)

"LAND OF THE LAWLESS" emerges as one of the best in Monogram's current series of Johnny Mack Brown starrers. J. Benton Cheney gave plenty of room for bang-up action in his screenplay, and director Lambert Hillyer, Brown and the other players all gave full measure of it in recording the proceedings for the screen. Cowboy fans should find the finished product highly satisfactory entertainment.

When Johnny rides into a lawless frontier town, the few remaining good-living citizens recruit him as their leader in an all-out effort to rid the community of a gambling-swindling-murder clique which has taken over. In short order he decides to employ the villain's own desperado tactics in defeating them, robbing them of their ill-gotten gains, polishing off their top gunmen in shoot-to-kill battles. There is not a dull moment for the customers. Raymond Hatten plays Brown's aide-de-camp, Christine McIntyre is cast as the lady saloon-owner who is the "brains" in the dirty work. June Harrison, a capable songstress, plays the part of a cafe entertainer, and Tristram Coffin, Steve Clark and I. Stanford Jolly are the heavies. Barney A. Sarecky produced.

Running time, 59 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, May 3.

C. L. F.

Mitchell Describes Radio Sales Aids

ARROWHEAD SPRINGS, Calif., May 11.—Greater recognition of the value of radio in film exploitation and publicity was urged upon the Paramount theatre partners today by Curtis Mitchell, the company's publicity and advertising director, at their meeting with Paramount executives here.

Mitchell pointed out that radio served a special need in summer. He will spend a week at the studio conferring on publicity campaigns on pictures now in production before returning to New York.

NBC to Televise Opening of Exhibit

Ceremonies for the opening of RCA's Exhibition Hall in Rockefeller Center tomorrow will be telecast by National Broadcasting's New York station, WNBT. The hall will be a "showcase" for all RCA products, facilities and services, including television equipment and operations.

Buys Color Cartoons

Marc Gilbert Film Co. has acquired 25 Cinecolor cartoons, produced by Ub Iwerks, for Continental Europe.

RKO's Annual Sales Meet Here July 7

RKO Radio will hold its annual sales convention at the Waldorf-Astoria, here, beginning on July 7.

Dore Schary, vice-president in charge of production, who left for Hollywood yesterday after 10 days here, will return for the meetings, as will Perry W. Lieber, director of RKO Radio studio publicity.

Schlaifer Holding Promotional Meets

Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox head of advertising-publicity, held a meeting in Washington over the weekend with William Michaelson, exploiteer and advertising manager, in connection with the campaign of 'Miracle on 34th Street," and "The Ghost of Mrs. Muir."

He will leave today for Chicago for similar meetings with local exploiteers, and from there will proceed to Kansas City for the same purpose, and then go to the Coast where he will join Spyros Skouras, president; Murray Silverstone, 20th Century-Fox International president; Tom J. Connors, vice-president in charge of sales, and William J. Kupper, general sales manager, who are leaving New York tomorrow to view new product and hold executive conferences with studio heads.

Maurice Kinzler of Kanpon Spiero Agency, Christy Wilbert, advertising manager, and Louis Shanfield, art director, left New York yesterday to join the Coast conferences.

Legion Explains Its Position on 'Duel'

Referring to a statement which appeared in newspaper advertising last week for "The Duel in the Sun," the Legion of Decency has issued the following statement:

"Newspaper advertising for 'The Duel in the Sun' contained the statement, 'The picture has been passed by the New York State Board of Censorship and the Legion of Decency'.

"The Legion of Decency has not 'passed' this film in the sense that the Legion has approved the film or given the film an unobjectionable rating. The Legion has rated the revised version with its numerous changes and additions of prologue and epilogue, B or Objectionable in Part for this reason: 'Immodestly suggestive sequences; glorification of illicit love'."

To Discuss Bid to Nelson

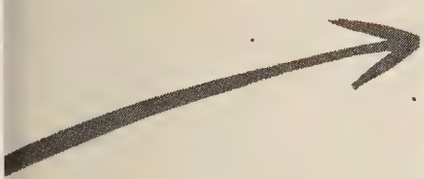
HOLLYWOOD, May 11.—The executive committee of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers will confer here with its president, Donald Nelson, regarding his invitation to serve unofficially as economic advisor to President Aleman of Mexico. Nelson has said that he will not resign his SIMPP post.

Wood Buys Original

HOLLYWOOD, May 11.—Producer-director Sam Wood has purchased an original story by Howard Emmett Rogers, with a background in the Planter's Hotel of St. Louis. He has scheduled it as an Interwood Production for Universal-International release late in 1948.

VOL

The Big News in New York



The Motion Picture Theatres of New York
Join with J. Arthur Rank and
Universal-International in presenting these

GREAT SCREEN ATTRACTIONS!

"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"
by Charles Dickens. Next attraction at Radio City Music Hall!

JAMES MASON *in* "ODD MAN OUT"
a Carol Reed Production. Now in its 3rd record-smashing week at LOEW'S Criterion Theatre!

"STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN"
in Technicolor. Now playing the RKO metropolitan theatre circuit!

"BRIEF ENCOUNTER"
by Noel Coward. On every ten best list, now playing LOEW'S metropolitan theatres!

"NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN"
also current in RKO metropolitan theatres!

"THE YEARS BETWEEN"
by Daphne DuMaurier. Also current in LOEW'S theatres!

"THIS HAPPY BREED"
by Noel Coward. In Technicolor, now in its 5th record week at the Little Carnegie!

"THE CAPTIVE HEART"
setting new attendance records in its 3rd week at Studio 65!

"THE WICKED LADY"
now playing at neighborhood theatres throughout the city . . .

"THE SEVENTH VEIL"
also current in your locality!

J. ARTHUR RANK PRESENTS

Wherever you go in search of entertainment . . . whatever you seek in screen enjoyment . . . you will find the best under the banner of

Universal International

J. Arthur Rank *Universal-International*

This a facsimile of an advertisement which is appearing in the New York newspapers today.

Production Community Hails Variety Clubs

HOLLYWOOD, May 11.—Studio heads and film executives have extended greetings to 1200 Variety Club delegates arriving here for the 11th annual convention of the organization, starting Tuesday. The executives were emphatic in stressing the importance of a gathering in Los Angeles which brings together the topmost distributors and exhibitors of the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Louis B. Mayer, production head of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, declared:

"Symbolized in the spirit of Variety is the great unselfish heart of the American showman. In practice and tradition, he is always first to extend a helping hand to those in want. I know of no fellowship so devoted to the finest ideals of humanity, and it is with great pride that I am privileged to share the sincere welcome extended by the entire motion picture industry."

Harry Cohn, president of Columbia, said:

"It is a pleasure for Columbia Pictures to welcome to Hollywood the International Convention of the Variety Clubs. It is of particular interest that these 1200 important exhibitors and distributors should meet in Hollywood where their pictures are made. There is good reason to believe that this convention will result in a better understanding between the makers of films and those who distribute and exhibit them. Such compatibility must reflect to the benefit of the movie-going public."

Darryl F. Zanuck, production head of 20th Century-Fox, extending his welcome, said:

"When 1200 men who are leaders in the exhibition and distribution field of the motion picture industry can travel from the four quarters of our country to dedicate their attention to the furtherance of human welfare, we of Hollywood owe high praise and gratitude to them, and are honored by their presence here."

"It is a privilege to extend a welcome on behalf of 20th Century-Fox studios to the attending members of the 1947 Variety Clubs Convention.

"To each and every member of the Variety Clubs go my earnest wishes for the success of this great-hearted organization and its current convention."

Henry Ginsberg, head of Paramount studios, said:

"The choice of Hollywood by Variety Clubs International for the 1947 convention is highly significant to the entire motion picture industry. It will afford those who produce the nation's films an opportunity to renew close contacts with the exhibitors and distributors who present our productions directly to the public.

"We in the studios know these members, not merely as business men, but also as leaders in charitable work ever since the first tent was formed 20 years ago. Paramount is proud to have recently filmed the Club's story in 'Variety Girl,' considering it such a laudable subject that we placed every star on the studio's roster in the cast.

"We at Paramount are happy that these men who are convening in Hollywood are a part of our industry and we welcome them warmly."

H. M. Warner, president of Warner Bros.:

"A doubly cordial welcome is awaiting 1200 of the top showmen of Canada, Mexico and the United States when Variety Clubs International opens its convention here. For this will be the first such meeting in the production home of the American motion picture industry, and we hope that our hospitality may win an early return engagement.

"Born and developed in the cause of humanitarian service, the Variety Clubs are reflecting immeasurable credit to this industry and the whole broad field of show business.

"Our company sends heartiest greetings to the Variety tents, and our wish is that every one of the more than 7,000 barkers will be here for the convention."

Jack L. Warner, head of Warners' production:

"The motion picture industry here is honored by its role as host to the convention of Variety Clubs International. These men, with their good works and good fellowship, personify the spirit of the entertainment arts and professions. They have chosen as a special field of public service the welfare of ill and underprivileged children. In fact, the first Variety Tent was founded to care for a baby abandoned in a theatre. Its destitute mother left a note explaining that she was relying on the traditional kindness and charity of show people.

"From that incident has come a magnificent response and the growth of a fine organization. Today the Variety Clubs of 32 cities sponsor clinics, nurseries and camps; and they provide mobile X-ray units, iron lungs, braces, and costly treatments. Such benefits to unfortunate children reflect credit and bring pride to the entire entertainment world."

Harmon to Speak At C. P. Taft Dinner

At a dinner honoring Charles P. Taft in Cincinnati tonight, Francis S. Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, will be the principal speaker. It will be a tribute by his neighbors under the auspices of the Church Federation of Cincinnati in honor of Taft's election several months ago as president of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America.

Taft and Harmon have been close friends since they were soldiers together in the same overseas regiment three decades ago.

Blumenfeld Head of Coast Variety Club

SAN FRANCISCO, May 11.—The new Variety Club has elected Abe Blumenfeld chief barker, Jimmy O'Neal first assistant chief, and Jack Marpole of National Screen, second assistant.

J. Leslie Jacobs is in charge of finances, and the crew includes Joseph Blumenfeld, Homer Tegtmeier, Roy Cooper, L. S. Hamm, Herman Kersken, Red Jacobs, Neal East and Jack Tillman.

Seek Awards to Be 'Less Pretentious'

HOLLYWOOD, May 11.—The annual Academy Awards ceremonies, opened to the public this year for the first time, may revert to "less pretentious" form, and be conducted in the Academy's own 1,000-seat theatre if recommendations submitted to the board of governors by Jean Hersholt, Academy president, is approved by the awards committee.

The awards committee, not yet appointed, represents the organization's 11 branches. Hersholt said his recommendations sought to make "annual awards more clearly an Academy presentation and less of an industry publicity stunt." Other recommendations included finding new sources of revenue to finance wider Academy programs and closer cooperation with the Motion Picture Association.

Pulitzer Awards for Films Are Postponed

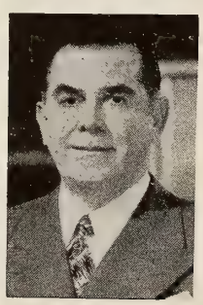
Action on expanding the scope of the Pulitzer Prize awards to include motion pictures and radio has been indefinitely postponed, it was revealed over the weekend by Dean Carl W. Ackerman of Columbia University and secretary to the advisory board of the award committee.

There had been reports that awards would be made for films.

Variety Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

Spanish-type Union Station by a Mexican string ensemble, and by cowboys and senoritas staging a three-day fiesta in the station's courtyard. They will be taken to the Ambassador Hotel convention headquarters in "Fifth Avenue" busses provided by Monogram.



Charles P. Skouras

Film studios, radio networks, theatres, civic and community and other organizations have competed in setting a new record of hospitality, and a two months' program of preparation, conducted by Charles P. Skouras, chief barker of Los Angeles Tent No. 25, has rounded into harmonious whole a schedule of events designed to make the period an engrossing delight for the delegates from 33 Variety Clubs in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Beneath the biggest Neon sign constructed in the West since the war, reading: "Welcome Barkers" in Variety Clubs' red and white colors, 33 tents, one for each of the convening delegations, will have been pitched on the spacious expanse of the Ambassador lawn. Inside the hotel, the commodious quarters of Tent No. 25 will be constantly open to Variety Club guests. Convocations will be held principally in the hostelry's vast Embassy Room.

The Humanitarian Awards Dinner, at which will be announced the year's winner of the honor given previously to Evangeline Booth, Sister Kenny, Father Flanagan, George Washington Carver, Martha Berry, Sir Alexander Fleming and Cordell Hull, will be given next Saturday night at the Warner Brothers studio, with Jack L. Warner as host, to be followed by a special entertainment program co-produced by LeRoy Prinz and James V. Kern, with Jack Carson as master-of-ceremonies, and with Dennis Morgan, Janis Paige and other stars in the cast. While this event is in progress, the wives of delegates will be guests of Sid Grauman at a performance of Ken Murray's "Blackouts" at the El Capitan Theatre.

Darryl F. Zanuck, Henry Ginsburg, Steve Broidy and Gene Autry will be hosts to the delegates at other special functions.

Although additions to the schedule remain to be made, the convention program as of the weekend is as follows:

Monday

9:00 A.M. Registration. No events planned. Broadcast tickets available to all.

Tuesday

Same as Monday.

Wednesday

9:00 A.M. Registration.
10:00 A.M. Meeting of national officers and national canvasmen in West Gold Room, Ambassador Hotel.
12:30 P.M. Luncheon, national officers and national canvasmen, at 20th Century-Fox studio as guests of Darryl F. Zanuck.
2:30 P.M. National officers and national canvasmen reconvene, West Gold Room.
7:00 P.M. Dinner, national officers and national canvasmen only.

Thursday

9:00 A.M. Registration.
10:00 A.M. Opening business session, official delegates of convention. Embassy Room, Ambassador Hotel.
12:30 P.M. Luncheon, all registered Barkers, Embassy Room, as guests of Gene Autry.
2.30 P.M. Business session reconvenes.
7:00 P.M. Dinner at Earl Carroll's Restaurant. All registered Barkers and wives, as guests of Steve Broidy. Transportation provided.

Friday

9:00 A.M. Registration.
10:00 A.M. Business Session, Embassy Room.
12:30 P.M. A—Luncheon. All registered Barkers, Embassy Room, as guests of Henry Ginsberg.
B—Style show and luncheon, Cocoanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel.

Saturday

9:00 A.M. Studio beach trip. Busses leave Ambassador at 9:00 Sharp.
11:00 A.M. Business meeting, newly elected national officers and national canvasmen, for selection of 1948 convention city.
1:30 P.M. Luncheon, California Cabana Club, Santa Monica.
7:00 P.M. Humanitarian Award Dinner, Warner Brothers Studio, Burbank, as guests of Jack L. Warner. Stag.
7:30 P.M. Theatre party for wives of Registered Barkers, Ken Murray's "Blackouts," El Capitan Theatre, as guests of Sid Grauman.

Key City Gross Reports

(Continued from page 1)

playing at advanced admission prices, again appeared most often as box-office leader in reports for last month. High runner-up for top honors was "The Egg and I," which led the field in the regular-price category.

"The Sea of Grass" and "California" were about tied for third place, followed closely by "My Favorite Brunette," "It Happened in Brooklyn," "The Macomber Affair," "The Jolson Story," and "Song of Scheherazade."

Also coming through as weekly leaders in a number of situations were: "Carnival in Costa Rica," "Boomerang," "The Locket," "Dead Reckoning," "Pursued," "Angel and the Badman," "Smash-Up," "Open City," "Till the Clouds Roll By," and "Lady in the Lake."

Also, "13 Rue Madeleine," "The Red House," "The Fabulous Dorseys," "Duel in the Sun," "Trail to San Antone," "Love Laughs at Andy Hardy," "Gallant Bess," "Suddenly It's Spring," "Johnny O'Clock," "Mr. District Attorney," "The Farmer's Daughter," "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," "The Late George Apley," "Trail Street," "The Imperfect Lady," "The Beast with Five Fingers," "The Razor's Edge," "Calendar Girl," "Sinbad the Sailor," "Stallion Road," "Henry V," "The Yearling," "Fantasia," and "Buck Privates Come Home."

Composite key city box-office reports for 1947 to date, compared with corresponding weeks of 1946, follow:

1947 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 3-4	167	$3,678,100	$22,024
Jan. 10-11	173	3,363,200	19,440
Jan. 17-18	173	3,007,300	17,383
Jan. 24-25	176	3,043,700	17,294
Jan. 31-Feb. 1	181	3,293,600	18,197
Feb. 7-8	177	3,089,600	17,495
Feb. 14-15	177	2,767,900	15,638
Feb. 21-22	182	3,042,700	16,718
Feb. 28-Mar. 1	166	2,800,300	16,869
Mar. 7-8	178	2,906,400	16,328
Mar. 14-15	174	2,890,300	16,610
Mar. 21-22	173	2,922,900	16,895
Mar. 28-29	178	3,069,500	17,245
April 4-5	179	2,838,800	15,859
April 11-12	184	3,239,500	17,606
April 18-19	177	2,973,400	16,798
April 25-26	183	2,917,900	15,945
May 2-3	177	2,699,800	15,253

1946 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 4-5	142	$3,304,300	$23,270
Jan. 11-12	144	2,940,100	20,417
Jan. 18-19	150	2,706,300	18,040
Jan. 25-26	158	2,800,100	17,722
Feb. 1-2	157	2,727,000	18,390
Feb. 8-9	158	2,798,300	17,756
Feb. 15-16	159	2,755,400	17,330
Feb. 22-23	156	2,638,200	16,918
Mar. 1-2	164	3,106,000	18,939
Mar. 8-9	163	2,926,600	17,955
Mar. 15-16	154	2,818,800	18,304
Mar. 22-23	165	2,981,100	18,067
Mar. 29-30	167	2,810,300	16,828
April 5-6	170	2,908,100	17,106
April 12-13	165	2,845,300	17,244
April 19-20	161	2,694,600	16,737
April 26-27	164	3,187,000	19,433
May 3-4	162	3,025,400	18,675

$150,000 for 'Duel' on Second Day in N. Y.

David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" grossed in excess of $150,000 on its second day at 38 Loew neighborhood theatres and at the Capitol, all in New York City, figured on the basis of an attendance figure of 150,000, as reported by the Selznick Releasing Organization office. The scale at the Loew houses runs from 90 cents to $1.35.

The Capitol's attendance was 15,000, the neighborhoods' 135,000, according to SRO.

15 New 'Duel' Dates

"Duel in the Sun" will open early in June in 15 houses of the A. H. Blank circuit in the following cities: Des Moines, Davenport, Rock Island, Moline, Cedar Rapids, Iowa City, Waterloo, Ottumwa and Sioux City, all in Iowa, and in the following cities in Nebraska: Omaha, Grand Island, Hastings, Falls City and Fairbury, reports Milton Kusell, general sales manager of Selznick Releasing Organization.

WANTED:

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Box 390

Motion Picture Daily

1270 6th Avenue, N. Y. City, N. Y.

Allied Southern Unit

(Continued from page 1)

meeting of 37 exhibitors of the two states at Alexandria, La.

National Allied has a unit in Texas, its only affiliate South of the Mason-Dixon line. H. A. Cole of Dallas, head of the Texas unit, has been very active in this territory getting the new Allied of Louisiana-Mississippi started. It is generally assumed here that one of the first moves the new organization will make, will be to apply for membership in national Allied.

Membership applications must be approved by the national Allied board.

MPTOA for long has been the dominant national exhibitor organization in the South, having affiliates in virtually every Southern state. Many of the latter also affiliated with the American Theatres Association last year.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Friday, W. A. Prewitt, Jr., of Associated Theatres, was elected president of the new Allied of Louisiana-Mississippi at the organizing meeting last week.

Shuford to Coast on Paramount Ad Plans

HOLLYWOOD, May 11.—Advertising plans on new Paramount product are awaiting the arrival of Stanley Shuford, advertising manager, who is en route here from New York.

Shuford will remain here a week, during which he will confer with studio executives on advertising campaigns on Cecil B. DeMille's Technicolor production, "Unconquered," and on "Variety Girl," produced by Daniel Dare; "Wild Harvest," produced by Robert Fellows; "Golden Earrings," produced by Harry Tugend, and other new pictures.

Rank in Video

(Continued from page 1)

charge of distribution. Asked whether UA had expressed dissatisfaction with its playing time on the Odeon circuit, Rank replied: "We've got to play the pictures on the circuit which bring in the most revenue."

Predicting that no decision on the quota question will be made for three or four months, Rank closed the subject by terming it "a political question," and added that he was "not interested in politics." He also said that British stars working in Hollywood "impose no hardship" on the British industry, but that on the contrary, "it helps."

Rank, accompanied by John Davis managing director of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, Ltd., and Mrs. Rank and Mrs. Davis, was greeted at the pier by Robert S. Benjamin, president of J. Arthur Rank, Inc.; Joseph Seidelman, president of Universal's international subsidiary, and Matthew Fox, chairman of the board of United World. Jock Lawrence, vice-president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, had already boarded the *Elizabeth* in the bay.

Following the pier interview, Rank and his party proceeded to the Sherry-Netherland Hotel. Rank was then guest of honor at a luncheon of the World's Sunday School Association at the Hotel Commodore, where he was awarded a scroll for his achievements in religious film productions. His speech was broadcast over the Mutual System.

After attending a committee meeting of the W. S. S. Association, Rank left the Commodore for a conference with officials of the J. Arthur Rank Organization. On Friday night, he was guest of Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal Pictures, at a private dinner.

Over the weekend, Rank discussed future plans with officials of Universal and was guest at the country home of Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox.

Today he will hold press conferences throughout the morning, accompanied by Robert R. Young, some of whose film interests are associated with Rank interests here; Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, Blumberg and others. He will be guest at a Universal Pictures luncheon at the Metropolitan Club; will attend a meeting of the Universal board, of which he is a member, in the afternoon, and tonight will be tendered a private dinner by the MPA.

Tomorrow afternoon he will be guest of honor at a cocktail party at the Metropolitan Club, to be given by Universal. [Rank is a teetotaler, but doesn't object to those who do.]

Rank Urges Film Use For Religious Work

The motion picture should be used more widely to spread religious education among young people, J. Arthur Rank declared Friday at a luncheon given in his honor by the World's Sunday School Association at the Hotel Commodore. A scroll in recognition of his work in religious films was presented to Rank.

Rank said that the motion picture was being used for religious education in England, and urged cooperation of Sunday School teachers with theatre owners to expand the program everywhere.

Francis S. Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors Association of America, welcomed Rank to the country, and praised his contributions to the religious film.

Others on the dais included Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam of the Methodist Church, and Mrs. Oxnam; Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, and Mrs. Skouras; Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal Pictures; John Davis, managing director of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, Ltd., and Mrs. Davis; Dr. Forrest L. Knapp, general secretary of the World's Sunday School Association; former Supreme Court Justice Lewis L. Fawcett, chairman of the North American Administrative Committee of the WSSA; Dr. Rajah B. Manikam, executive secretary of the National Christian Council of India; Father Georges Florovsky, professor at the Institute of the Russian Orthodox Church in Exile, Paris; Sir Francis Evans, British Consul General in New York, and Mrs. H. V. K. Gillmore, vice-chairman of the world council of the WSSA.

T. J. Hargrave, Wolff, Votion, Others Sail

Among those who left New York aboard the *S.S. Queen Elizabeth* for England Saturday were: Thomas J. Hargrave, president of the Eastman Kodak Co., and Mrs. Hargrave, and Kenneth Mees, E-K director of research, and Mrs. Mees; Basil O'Connor, chairman of the American Red Cross, and Mrs. O'Connor; A. P. Giannini, board chairman of the Bank of America; Jack Votion, RKO Radio studio representative in Europe; Lee Shubert, New York theatrical manager; Robert Wolff, RKO Radio's London representative; Arnold Pressburger, producer.

Exhibitors* are switching to "REPEAT PERFORMANCE" because "REPEAT PERFORMANCE" has Louis Hayward, Joan Leslie, Richard Basehart, a superb cast in a great picture.

*Names on request from EAGLE-LION FILMS

Paramount Partner Meetings Start

ARROWHEAD SPRINGS, Cal., May 6.—Paramount home office executives and theatre partners from the field convened here today in the first of a series of meetings scheduled to last until Friday or possibly Saturday.

Discussions concern theatre operating problems under the Federal Court decree in the industry anti-trust suit, plus current theatre operating problems resulting from post-war conditions.

Scheduled to attend on Friday are Barney Balaban, president of Paramount; Henry Ginsberg, vice-president in charge of production, and Y. Frank Freeman, vice-president.

Besides Balaban, those who are attending the meetings from the home office are: Leonard Goldenson, Edward L. Hyman, Robert M. Weitman, Leon D. Netter, Hal Pereira, Evans Perkins, Eugene Street, Montague Gowthorpe, Max Fellerman, Curtis Mitchell and Robert Powers.

Theatre partners in attendance are: M. J. Mullin and Sam Pinanski, M. & P. Circuit, Boston; Sam Goldstein, Western Massachusetts Theatres, New Haven; Harry Royster, Netco Theatres Corp., Poughkeepsie; Frank Walker, Comerford Circuit, Scranton; Earl Hudson, United Detroit Theatres; John Balaban, Walter Immerman, Dave Wallerstein and Henry Spickelmeier, B. and K. and Great States Theatres, Chicago; Harry French and Charles Winchell, Minnesota Amusement Co., Minneapolis.

Also: A. H. Blank, Myron Blank and Ralph Branton, Tri-States and Central States Theatres of Iowa and Nebraska; M. A. Lightman, Malco Theatres, Memphis; E. V. Richards, Turk Carter, Gaston Dureau and A. H. Higgenbottom, Paramount-Richards, New Orleans; R. B. Wilby, H. F. Kincey, James Harrison, Roy Smart and Richard Kennedy, Wilby-Kincey Circuit, the Carolinas, Tennessee and Atlanta; Fred Kent, Florida States Theatres; Karl Hoblitzelle and R. J. O'Donnell, Interstate Theatres, Texas.

Also: Julius Gordon, Sam Landrum and S. L. Oakley, Jefferson Amusement Co., Beaumont, Tex.; Hunter Perry, Charlottesville, Va.; Harry Nace, Jr., Publix-Richards-Nace Theatres, Arizona; Tracy Barham and Ray Hendry, Intermountain Theatres, Salt Lake City; William Jenkins, Fred Storey and John Stembler, Lucas and Jenkins, Georgia; Jack Keegan, Northio Theatres, Ohio; John J. Fitzgibbons, Famous Players Canadian Corp., Canada, Ltd.

Paramount Meetings Start in the Field

First round of branch conferences to be held throughout the country in advance of Paramount's 1947 sales drive has begun with meetings in San Francisco, Los Angeles and Washington. George A. Smith, the company's Western division sales manager, will conduct the San Francisco parley today after having concluded a two-day Los Angeles meeting yesterday.

Earle W. Sweigert, Mideastern division sales manager, will wind up the two-day Washington meeting today. The 13-week "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership" sales contest will open nationally on Aug. 31.

Astor Starts Summer Rates on 'Best Years'

Summer prices became effective today for Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" at the Astor Theatre here. New summer prices begin at 95 cents with a top of $1.50 at peak evening hours on weekdays. On Saturdays and Sundays, the scale begins at 95 cents and runs to $1.80. Old prices began at 95 cents, with $1.50 charged at peak hours. On Saturdays and Sundays, the scale formerly went from $1.20 to $2.40. On Friday, the film will hit the Astor's long-run record for a picture shown on continuous policy, when it starts its 25th week.

Hope Theatres Will Show Air Force Film

WASHINGTON, May 6.—The Army Air Forces will try to interest exhibitors in its new air research and development film.

The film, produced by American film producers for the AAF, was accepted here over the weekend and AAF officials disclosed that they had asked the Office of Government Reports for clearance to show it to film companies and exhibitors. Main hope for commercial showing, it was added, were that some newsreel theatre circuit would take the picture, which has a running time of 18 minutes.

AAF officials stated that plans have been made for three more general information films and that they will take their requests to the Signal Corps in the near future.

Bill Would Legalize U. S. Film Division

WASHINGTON, May 6.—Rep. Mundt today introduced a bill to give statutory authority to the State Department's overseas information program, including its international motion picture division.

One of the main arguments used by the House Appropriations Committee in denying funds for the program was that it had no specific authority in law for existence.

The Mundt Bill is given at best a 50-50 chance of passage.

Ramsaye Article on Films in Year Book

An article on motion pictures has been written by Terry Ramsaye, editor of *Motion Picture Herald*, for the "New International 1947 Year Book," a 750-page annual published this week by Funk and Wagnalls.

The book is edited by Charles Earle Funk, and among other contributors are: J. Edgar Hoover, head of the FBI; Niles Trammell, president of NBC, and Vernon Rice, drama editor of the *New York Post*.

Tribute to Industry

HOLLYWOOD, May 6.—A tribute to the industry for its efforts in advancing the cause of literacy in Latin-American countries was voiced by Viriato Comacho, Costa Rica's assistant secretary of state in charge of education, during a visit to the Warner Brothers Studio.

Coast ITO Speaker Backs Divorcement

LOS ANGELES, May 6.—Dr. J. B. Fishman, president of Allied Theatres of Connecticut, asserted that "monopoly exists in production" and that "divorcement is the solution" with "playing time open in all theatres to all producers," at the opening session of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners which was convened at the Ambassador Hotel here.

Thomas J. Severson, Montana Theatres Association president, declared that "we are tired of paying through our noses for product and intend doing something about it," while Sam Gillette, president of Intermountain Theatres Association, said "theatre owners must organize for protection."

In his keynote address, Robert H. Poole, PCCITO executive secretary, stated that "film rentals will be dealt with, definitely, at this convention, along with other practices that are detrimental to independent exhibitors."

In an address at the afternoon session, Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, said that the motion picture industry, like all others, must face the fact that the period of peak business is past. He called for reduced costs in production and distribution and added that exhibitors must join in urging authorities to increase foreign exhibition of U. S. product.

Indiana ATO Hits U-I Films for Purdue

INDIANAPOLIS, May 6.—Protesting against the licensing of product by Universal-International to Purdue University, the board of directors of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana today asserted that U-I's action places an institution which is supported by public funds in direct competition with the people who pay taxes to support it. The board also endorsed Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston's plan to explore the possibilities of using the screen to bring about a better understanding of the industry and how it operates.

A. C. Zaring, veteran Indianapolis exhibitor who retired from active business recently, was given a lifetime honorary membership on the board of directors.

'Nais' Premiere

Marcel Pagnol's "Nais," starring Fernandel, will have its world premiere at the Las Palmas Theatre, Los Angeles, tomorrow, under the auspices of the French Consulate of Los Angeles. Proceeds from the engagement of "Nais," which is being released in this country by Siritzky-International, will go to French charities.

RCA Appoints Hucke

CAMDEN, May 6. — Herbert M. Hucke has been appointed sales manager of the newly-consolidated communications and specialty section of Radio Corp. of America.

Set "Duel" Openings

LOS ANGELES, May 6. — David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" will open simultaneously in 24 greater Los Angeles theatres tomorrow at $1 daytime and $1.25 evening admission prices.

Warner Building Program Progresses

The third new Warner exchange building to be opened this year, a Minneapolis branch, is expected to be ready late in July. Newly-built quarters already have been occupied in New Haven and Philadelphia.

Herman Goldberg, supervisor of maintenance and purchasing agent for Warner exchanges, left yesterday for a tour of branches at Oklahoma City, Dallas, Omaha, Des Moines, Minneapolis and Chicago.

Warns of Conditions In Commercial Field

American commercial films are at a dangerous crossroad, Phillips B. Nichols, RKO Pathe commercial department sales manager, states here. Chaotic conditions in distribution endanger both the progress and prestige of industrial film production, according to Nichols, and have brought about a crisis which the industry cannot afford to ignore. Nichols calls for immediate distribution programming as a primary requisite in the expanding field.

"What commercials need," he said, "is a coordinating association to put them into every projector available, just as theatrical picture distribution sees a film through from world premiere to the last grind run."

India's Film Role Cited by Skouras

Citing the motion picture as important to permanent peace by way of creating mutual understanding among nations, Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, last night presented a plaque to Vijay Bhatt, producer-director of India, for his contributions to Indo-American cultural ties. Skouras made the presentation in behalf of the India Society of America at a banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here.

Francis Harmon, New York vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, spoke of the American industry's interests in Indian affairs and of the desire to present U. S. product to audiences of that country.

A preview showing of Bhatt's newest picture, "Ram Rajya," will be held at the Museum of Modern Art here today.

Skouras, Truman Chat

WASHINGTON, May 6.—Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, spent a half hour with President Truman this afternoon. Skouras, who returned to New York after the visit, discussed his recent trip to South America.

Oregon Theatre Burns

DETROIT, ORE., May 6. — In a fire which burned half of the town, the Detroit Theatre, newly opened, was completely destroyed, with a loss of $50,000, according to Fred S. Wilson, manager.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 93 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1947 TEN CENTS

R. A. Rowland Film Pioneer, Dies in N. Y.

Made 'Four Horsemen' And Other Hit Films

Richard A. Rowland, industry pioneer and one of its leading figures for several decades, died here yesterday after a seven-month illness. He was 66.



Richard A. Rowland

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. tomorrow at Campbell's, 81st St. and Madison Ave. The body will be taken to Pittsburgh tomorrow evening, and interment will be in the family plot in Homewood Cemetery there.

Rowland was a legendary figure in the industry. Introduced to it almost

(*Continued on page 3*)

MPA Research Unit Now in Washington

WASHINGTON, May 12.—Transfer of the Motion Picture Association's statistical research division to Washington has been completed with the arrival of the unit's director, Robert W. Chambers, from New York.

First members of the staff and the first machines arrived some weeks ago, and other members and equipment have been trickling down over the weeks.

MPA officials, it is understood, are considering converting the garage behind the present MPA headquarters into offices for the research staff.

High Court to Hear Griffith Arguments

WASHINGTON, May 12.—The U. S. Supreme Court today agreed to hear arguments in the Government's anti-trust suit against the Griffith's Amusement Co. This and the Schine theatres' appeal, of which it already has taken jurisdiction, will probably be heard one

(*Continued on page 2*)

MPA, British Establish Joint Agency

The Motion Picture Association of America and the British Film Producers Association have established a joint standing advisory committee to facilitate cooperation in film industry matters of common interest and public responsibility, it was announced here last night at a dinner given by the MPA at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in honor of J. Arthur Rank, president of the British association. Both Rank and Eric Johnston, MPA president, hailed the agreement.

Johnston declared that he hoped this step would "enable the British and American industries to make an ever in-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Smith to Germany As an MPEA Aide

Harold Smith, formerly Motion Picture Association representative in Paris, recently replaced by Frank McCarthy, has been assigned to Berlin as a home office representative of the Motion Picture Export Association, it was disclosed here yesterday by Irving Maas, MPEA general manager. He will concern himself with the "political and cultural" aspects of U. S. films in Germany, it was said, as distinguished from actual distribution matters. Maas said that an MPEA distribution representative in Germany will be appointed in a few days.

Maas reported further that Robert

(*Continued on page 2*)

AMG Neglects to Aid MPEA: Maas

Unless the American Military Government in Germany emerges from its apparent state of lethargy and actively cooperates with the Motion Picture Export Association by providing adequate facilities, the MPEA will be forced to spurn the opportunity of operating in that country as a private enterprise, commencing July 1, as planned.

This attitude was expressed here yesterday by Irving Maas, MPEA general manager, who pointed out that the only source through which it is

(*Continued on page 3*)

U.S. Films Inferior To British: Young

Robert R. Young, head of Pathe Industries, PRC and Eagle-Lion Films, agreed with a woman reporter at the J. Arthur Rank press conference yesterday that "British pictures are better than American.

"That's why we are concentrating both our expenditures and our sales efforts on British pictures, to our profit and pleasure," Young said.

Labor 'Talks' Halt Monogram Filming

HOLLYWOOD, May 12.—First complete Hollywood production shutdown due to labor problems in recent years is announced by Monogram president Steve Broidy, who said he is "unable to plan any future productions until such time as current negotiations between producer groups and various guilds are clarified" and will "temporarily halt production by Monogram and Allied Artists when current pictures are completed." The

(*Continued on page 8*)

Walsh Goes to AFL Jurisdiction Meet

Richard F. Walsh, IATSE international president, left here yesterday for Washington, where the heads of 12 AFL unions with affiliates in Hollywood studios will meet today in an effort to establish permanent machinery for the arbitration of future juris-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Cal. Lawmakers Act On Industry Bills

SACRAMENTO, Cal., May 12.—Several bills which would affect the film industry in this state, directly or otherwise, are now pending in the legislature.

Senator Oliver Carter of Redding cast the one dissenting vote in the Senate on the bill introduced by Senator W. P. Rich of Marysville, to outlaw jurisdictional strikes. This provides for court enforcement of collective bargaining contracts. The American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organiza-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Rank Satisfied With British Film Progress

But More Playing Time Expected Here, He Says

J. Arthur Rank expressed himself yesterday as "satisfied" with the progress British films are making in this country but added quickly that "we will have to have much more playing time and that starts with the large circuits."



J. Arthur Rank

He expressed the opinion that it will take "two or three years" for British pictures to earn their proper place in this market.

Rank's remarks were made at the Sherry Netherland Hotel here at which not only representatives of the trade press, lay press, fan

(*Continued on page 8*)

'U' Still in Market For 50 Theatres

Universal-International still plans to acquire approximately 50 theatres as showcases for its own and British pictures, Matthew Fox, vice-president, told press representatives gathered to interview J. Arthur Rank here yesterday.

Fox said the theatre acquisition plan had been delayed due to the unavailability of desirable houses, and to exorbitant prices asked for those that are on the market. He said that the theatres would be acquired in cities of 200,000 to 250,000 population as soon as conditions permit.

Johnston Expected To Testify on Tax

WASHINGTON, May 12.—Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston will probably testify during the House Ways and Means committee hearings on over-all tax revision, which begin on May 19.

It is understood that the committee so far has sent out invitations to only a handful of Government officials, and

(*Continued on page 3*)

Personal Mention

BEN KALMENSON, Warner general sales manager, and HARRY M. KALMINE, Warner Theatres general manager, have arrived in Los Angeles from the East.

•

HENRY D. MATCHER, manager of the Embassy and Rivoli theatres in Baltimore, will mark his 30th anniversary with the Rivoli next Sunday.

•

HAROLD L. GROVES, Confidential Reports national field director, returned from Chicago over the weekend after touring CRI branches.

•

MAURY ORR, United Artists Western sales manager, arrived in Chicago yesterday on the first leg of a trip through the Western territory.

•

NAT LEVY, RKO Radio Eastern Division sales manager, has left New York for Florida.

Baptists Seek Joint Action on Product

ST. LOUIS, May 12.—Cooperation of 6,000,000 Southern Baptists with the Catholic Legion of Decency was forecast at the close of the annual meeting of the Church, which threatened to boycott undesirable films.

As finally adopted a convention resolution urged Southern Baptists to use discrimination in choice of films and individual churches to cooperate with membership of other denominations in setting standards for motion pictures. M. A. Huggins, Raleigh, N. C., secretary of the resolutions committee, said the wording was designed to encourage cooperation with such organizations as the Legion of Decency.

The convention censured films which present "scenes depicting gambling, drinking, organized vice, divorce and broken homes . . . because they tend to glamorize loose morals."

Emanuel Is Trustee Of Phila. Zone MPF

PHILADELPHIA, May 12.—Jay Emanuel was elected national trustee of the Motion Picture Foundation for Southern New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware at a meeting at the Broadwood Hotel here this morning. Others elected are: Martin Ellis, Philadelphia zone chairman; Ulrik Smith, vice-chairman; Lester Wurtle, zone secretary, and Harry Abbott, IATSE Projectionists Local No. 307 president, treasurer.

Elected to the board of directors for two years were: Ellis Wurtle, George Schwartz, Lewen Pizor, Norman Lewis, Ted Schlanger, Bud Hissner and Abbott, and for one-year terms: Sidney E. Samuelson, Alfred Davis, William Mansell, Jack Greenberg, Samuel Gross, Samuel Varbalow, Ben Amsterdam and Smith.

Rome Aims to Spur Native Production

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

Rome, May 12.—Italy's Constituent Assembly has approved a domestic exhibition quota law requiring that theatremen reserve a minimum of 20 program days of each three-month period for Italian productions.

The law further provides a Government prize of 10 per cent of the admission taxes, paid by theatremen, to go to the producer of the native product shown.

Delay Woskie Against Universal

MINNEAPOLIS, May 12.—Hearings in the suit of Frank Woskie against Universal to determine the distributor's right to tack a COD on unplayed films, scheduled to start in District Court today, has been delayed pending the taking of depositions from Fred Abelson, former Universal salesman, now in California.

Universal had put a COD on the film which Woskie refused to accept, and as a consequence, he kept his Parkway Theatre closed for three days, the length of time the feature was booked. Woskie seeks damages for loss of profit and prestige to the theatre. North Central Allied is prosecuting the suit for Woskie.

Poole Is Reelected PCCITO Secretary

LOS ANGELES, May 12.—In their annual meeting, trustees of the PCCITO reelected Robert W. Poole executive secretary, and Hugh Bruen treasurer. The Montana ITO and the Utah ITO officers said those organizations will meet in the near future to vote an affiliation with the PCCITO.

Bruen will represent PCCITO on the exhibition section of the industry committee created by Eric Johnston to explore the possibility of using the screen to improve public relations.

Balaban Will Speak On Minneapolis MPF

MINNEAPOLIS, May 12.—John Balaban of Balaban and Katz, Chicago, will be the principal speaker at the May 19 Motion Picture Foundation meeting at which plans for the Foundation in this area will be mapped.

Harry French, acting chairman of the area's organizing committee, will preside at the meeting.

Smith to Germany

(*Continued from page* 1)

Vining, now civilian adviser to the American Military Government in Germany, employed by the MPEA, will return to the U. S. early next month and will be given a new assignment.

Smith had been slated for an MPA Hollywood post dealing with suitability of the content of American films foreign markets.

Wells and Abbott in New UN Film Posts

WASHINGTON, May 12. — William H. Wells, information film chief of UNRRA, now on official loan from that agency to the United Nations Department of Public Information, will be appointed chief of the film section in the Films and Visual Information Division, Jean Benoit-Lévy, director of the Division, announced today.

Wells will serve in an acting capacity at UN until he is released by UNRRA, when his new appointment will take effect. He will fill the post left vacant by Marion Dix, whose appointment as United Nations film production and distribution officer in India, with headquarters at New Delhi, was announced recently.

Benoit-Lévy also announced that Frederic K. Abbott, former editor and general manager of the United Newsreel, and for many years in the newsreel field in Europe and the U. S. has been appointed newsreel and television liaison officer for the division. Abbott has already taken up his duties and is currently active in assisting the newsreels to obtain full coverage of the meetings of the General Assembly of the United Nations and its committees at Flushing and at Lake Success.

Griffith Arguments

(*Continued from page* 1)

after the other in the session beginning next October. No date has been set yet for the Schine case, and the court's calendar is full for the current season, ending in mid-June.

Justice Department officials took the court action as indicating a desire to hear all the motion picture cases at approximately the same time, and suggested that the same pattern might be followed when the court acts on the New York industry anti-trust appeal, docketed last Thursday. They pointed out that the court had ordered arguments one after the other despite the fact that the Schine case was docketed many months before the Griffith suit.

The high court did not grant a formal writ of *certiorari*, but instead noted "probable jurisdiction." With this it technically reserves the right to ultimately reject the case upon fully reviewing the court records, but this is regarded as unlikely.

In the Griffith appeal, the Government seeks to reverse a decision of the District Court of Western Oklahoma, dismissing a complaint against four exhibitor companies and three individuals for alleged violation of the Sherman Act.

The Government held that the defendants had combined their theatres in transactions to license films from distributors for the purpose of restricting the film licensing opportunities of independent competitive exhibitors. It asked that the combination be declared illegal and dissolved.

Schine has taken an appeal of a Buffalo Federal Court's decision ordering partial dissolution of its theatre properties.

UA Meets Today on Distribution Pacts

With negotiations looking to the appointment of a new president of United Artists still going on, a board meeting of the company to be held today will concern itself with what are described as routine matters, probably a vote on new distribution contracts with some independent producers.

Both Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin, co-owners, have returned to the Coast from here. UA's negotiators are still "hopeful" that a successor to Edward C. Raftery, president, will come to terms with the company before its annual meeting, to be held either late this month or early n.

Acquires 8 Theatres For Foreign Product

SAN FRANCISCO, May 12.—Acquisition of the Laurel, Esquire, Senset and Studio Theatres in Los Angeles by Herbert Rosener Co., plus the Stage Door, Nob Hill, Clay and Larkin theatres here, gives Rosener a total of eight houses all devoted exclusively to the exhibition of foreign films.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Claudette COLBERT Fred MacMURRAY
"THE EGG AND I"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
LAWRENCE TIERNEY · CLAIRE TREVOR · WALTER SLEZAK
'BORN TO KILL'

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN EDWARD G. ROBINSON LON McCALLISTER 'The RED HOUSE'
IN PERSON WALLY BROWN CHUCHO MARTINEZ
Extra! SALICI PUPPETS

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES' ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

ALAN LADD GAIL RUSSELL WILLIAM BENDIX in CALCUTTA
A Paramount Picture
in Person DUKE ELLINGTON And His Orchestra GOLDEN GATE QUARTETTE COKE & POKE BUCK & BUBBLES
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

MPA, British

(*Continued from page* 1)

creasing contribution to world understanding and peace."

Rank commented that, notwithstanding the competition between both groups, "there is a large field in which the aims of our two industries and the interests of our public are identical and not competitive."

The committee will be empowered to deal with matters of mutual interest which may be referred to it from time to time by consent of both parties. The membership will comprise three representatives of each association, together with a deputy for each, located respectively in New York and London.

The six members of the committee include Johnston, Rank, Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, Inc.; Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures; Sir Alexander Korda, member of the executive council of the British Film Producers Association, and Sir Henry L. French, director general of the British Film Producers Association.

In London, where the announcement was made simultaneously, non-trade editorial comment approved Rank's reference to the continuing competition between the industries, but saw in the agreement future pleasant trading conditions, particularly wider screenings of British pictures in America, according to a cable reaching New York last night from London.

Walsh Attends

(*Continued from page* 1)

dictional disputes in film production.

The meeting, called by AFL president William Green, is understood to be the outgrowth of a suggestion made by the Screen Actors Guild at the last AFL convention in Chicago.

The present Hollywood strike, however, is not on the official agenda today, according to Walsh. He said that the anticipated arbitration machinery will not apply to the current dispute because it has already been subjected to a "final and binding" arbitration. Members of the carpenters' union in the Hollywood studios walked out last September because they were dissatisfied with terms of a decision handed down late in 1945 by a three-man AFL committee.

Observers believe the strike will come up for some informal discussion, however, especially since William Hutcheson, president of the carpenters' union, is expected to attend. On several occasions in the past, Walsh has expressed willingness to meet with Hutcheson, and has held that such a meeting could end the strike.

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500 Variety Members Due in L. A. Today

Los Angeles, May 12.—With upwards of 500 members scheduled to arrive tomorrow, Variety Clubs International convention registered almost 300 today as special trains brought 280 delegates here. The Texas contingent, which is due tomorrow, has wired ahead that they would "shoot up" the town upon their arrival.

The convention opens formally on Wednesday.

Cal. Lawmakers Act

(*Continued from page* 1)

tions opposed the measure, which had the support of farm and management.

The ban on jurisdictional strikes makes it unlawful for two or more persons to try to force any employer to bargain with a labor organization unless the labor organization has been legally designated as the collective bargaining representative.

Meanwhile, the secondary boycott bill has passed the Senate and Assembly, successfully. Its constitutionality is being questioned, however. Chief Justice Phil Gibson has stated he believes a constitutionality test of the bill will be carried to the Supreme Court. It is anticipated that Gov. Warren will not sign it. However, if industry can convince him to do so, it is expected to save a great deal of time and controversy. If he does not sign it, industry is assured of 54 votes in the Assembly and 27 in the Senate—necessary to pass over the governor's veto.

The daylight saving measure, presented by Assemblywoman Katherin Niehouse, came out of committee this week, and will go on the Assembly floor for discussion.

Labor and industry units on Assembly Bill No. 1328, introduced by Ernest Geddes, establishing new schedules of reduced contribution rates for employers ranging from 2.7 per cent to zero for any year after Dec. 31, 1947. On January 1st, balance in unemployment fund will be $250,000,000 or more.

C. J. Haggerty, managing director of the AFL, helped representatives of industry to lobby the bill through Assembly and Senate. This measure will enable management to slant $23,000,000 a year, now earmarked for unemployment taxes into productive channels, and will also liberalize benefits.

Johnston To Testify

(*Continued from page* 1)

no industry leaders have volunteered to testify yet. However, with so many tax questions affecting the industry under study, Johnston's views—and possibly those of other motion picture people—will undoubtedly be welcomed.

Two of the chief benefits which the industry can hope for are relief from double taxation and a reduction in the 20 per cent admission tax.

Worthington Dies at 56

BLUFFTON, O., May 12.—A. T. Worthington, 56, former owner of the Star Theatre, here, died suddenly Saturday of a heart attack. Funeral services will be held tomorrow. He is survived by his wife and a daughter.

Rowland Dies

(*Continued from page* 1)

accidentally, he soon demonstrated a grasp of the intricacies of the then infant business, and was recognized as a powerful personality.

His father had owned the Pittsburgh Calcium Light Company, which manufactured, among other devices, spotlights for theatres. When Edison's inventions edged out calciums in the theatres, Rowland began to manufacture oxygen for medical purposes.

But Rowland still had customers in country showmen who wanted film. He came to New York and started production. After selling his firm to the General Film Company in 1910, Rowland had cash. He was a millionaire at the age of 30, and after developing exchanges, organized the Metro Picture Corporation in 1914.

Rowland was president of the new firm, whose treasurer was Joseph Engel, and whose secretary was Louis B. Mayer. They hired as their first star Pevtrova, and later introduced another name that was to twinkle in bright lights throughout the land—Mary Miles Minter, who had previously played under the name of Juliet Shelby.

Sometime in 1919, Rowland made a characteristic comment when he learned that such stars as Mary Pickford, Charles Chaplin and Douglas Fairbanks were organizing their own company, United Artists. He said, after musing for less than a second: "So, the lunatics have taken charge of the asylum."

But Rowland was far from snobbish in making this remark. He had termed himself "one of the accidentally successful," and he delved into the feverish early days of the industry with relish and humor.

Having disposed of distribution interests in Universal, Paramount and Mutual, Rowland finally sold his Metro company to Marcus Loew in 1919. Two years later, he joined First National as general manager.

But before selling Metro, Rowland scored a personal triumph by producing "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse," a war film, at a time when the entire industry believed war pictures were in disfavor. He bought the story without having read it, called in Rex Ingram to direct the film, and starred an Argentinian dancer named Rudolph Valentino. The picture was a smash hit, much to the other producers' amazement, and Metro made what was then a heavy profit, much more than a quarter of a million.

Rowland later picked up a copy of "The Four Horseman" to read it for the first time. He glanced carelessly at a few pages, and then tossed it to the floor. He no longer had any interest in it.

Joining Fox Film Corporation in 1931, Rowland was vice-president and production executive. Pictures produced by that firm while he was production chief included "Cavalcade" and "State Fair." He worked for Radio, Universal, returned to M-G-M in 1935 and went to Republic as associate producer, and later as executive assistant to Edward Small. As an independent producer, he made "Cheers for Miss Bishop" in 1941, and in December, 1942, joined the staff of 20th Century-Fox as a production executive in the New York office.

He was a member of the Lambs and of the Westchester Country Club.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Daisy C. Rowland, and two sisters, Mrs. Oliver McCracken of Los Angeles, and Mrs. Jessie R. Miller of New York City.

Berger Takes Price Rises to Truman

MINNEAPOLIS, May 12.—Roadshow prices demanded by Samuel Goldwyn for "The Best Years of Our Lives" and by David O. Selznick for "Duel in the Sun" are not only "cruel and unpatriotic" in the face of film companies' unprecedented earnings, "but also a slap at your very welcome price-reducing attempt," Ben Berger, president of North Central Allied, declares in a letter to President Truman, appealing to the chief executive to "do something" about bringing admission prices on the two pictures down to regular scales.

Balaban, Ginsberg Cite Para Line-up

ARROWHEAD SPRINGS, Cal., May 12.—Barney Balaban, Paramount president, and Henry Ginsberg, vice-president in charge of studio operations, told the final session of the week-long theatre-partners conference here that the company has the "strongest line-up in its history due to production planning beginning three years ago." The majority of participants in the meeting are remaining on the Coast for the Variety Clubs convention which officially opens on Wednesday at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles.

AMG Neglects MPEA

(*Continued from page* 1)

possible to function in Germany is the Office of Military Government, U. S., and the latter has yet to make known its intentions. Unless this is done, Maas said, the AMG license to operate apart from the Government will be turned down.

Maas is back in New York after a five-week tour of England, Holland, France, Austria, Czechoslovakia and Germany. He said it would be necessary to have assurances for branch offices, headquarters and appurtenances, availability of staffs, means of feeding personnel, ("one solid meal per day means a satisfied employe") and other items.

Another point to be considered, Maas added, is the distribution of the Anglo-American newsreel, "World in Films," which is produced in Munich. MPEA wants to handle the film in the American zone of Germany, he said, it being his understanding that the reel is to be distributed by Commonwealth Films, MPEA's British counterpart, in the British zone.

$900,000 for 'Duel' In First Week Here

First week showings, ending tonight, of "Duel in the Sun" at the Capitol Theatre, here, and at 38 Loew neighborhood houses in the Metropolitan area, will gross approximately $900,000, it is estimated. The film will bow out of 35 of the Loew theatres after tonight as showings, and will continue for a second week at only the Capitol, the Metropolitan in Brooklyn, Loew's Jersey City and the State, Newark.

James Normanly, 53

HOLLYWOOD, May 12.—Requiem Mass was sung this morning for James P. Normanly, 53, former Universal executive, retired, who died on Friday. The widow and a son survive.

The new word in entertainment



Groucho

COPACABANA

It's
LAVISH...LILTING
LAUGH-LADEN!

GROUCHO MARX
CARMEN MIRANDA
ANDY RUSSELL
STEVE COCHRAN
GLORIA JEAN

in a Sam Coslow MUSICAL PRODUCTION

"COPACABANA"

with the COPA GIRLS—the 14 Most Beautiful Girls in America—and the Nation's Top Nightspot Reporters . . . LOUIS SOBOL • ABEL GREEN • EARL WILSON

Directed by ALFRED E. GREEN

Screenplay by Laslo Vadnay, Alan Boretz and Howard Harris • Additional dialogue by Sydney R. Zelinka • Words and Music by Sam Coslow





Gloria's Glorious

Andy's So Amorous!

The last word in great business

COPACOLOSSAL!

loves Carmen!

Miranda's Miraculous!





The Nation Will Be Singing!

"STRANGER THINGS HAVE HAPPENED"

"JE VOUS AIME"

"MY HEART WAS DOING THE BOLERO"

"LET'S DO THE COPACABANA"

ABANA

with the **14** most beautiful girls in America!

COPACABANA!..... from UA

....a Great Big



with a host of hit songs by Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson

KEEP YOUR BOX OFFICE

Wonderful Show!

EDDIE ALBERT · CONSTANCE MOORE · JOAN EDWARDS

HIT PARADE of 1947

"It Could Happen To Me"

with GIL LAMB · BILL GOODWIN · WILLIAM FRAWLEY

WOODY HERMAN and his ORCHESTRA

AND REPUBLIC GUEST STARS

ROY ROGERS and TRIGGER

BOB NOLAN and the SONS OF THE PIONEERS

Screen Play by Mary Loos · Original Story by Parke Levy · Songs by Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson · Associate Producer and Director, Frank McDonald

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

EYE ON SKY-ROCKETING REPUBLIC!

Trade Board Delays British Film Plan

LONDON, May 12.—Proposals to found a British government-owned film industry have been delayed at least until later in the year, the Board of Trade reports.

A state-owned industry producing films and operating two theatre circuits competing with existing commercial groups had been suggested by a special committee of the Labor party.

The announcement said Sir Stafford Cripps, president of the Board of Trade, "discussed the committee's proposals at informal meeting, and he suggested another meeting later in the year when the position of the industry generally will be more clear."

The *London Evening Standard* reports that Sir Stafford had "surprised" Labor party leaders by opposing the state film proposals. It expressed concern at the "dangers of state control in any field of expression or potential mediums of propaganda."

The Board of Trade spokesman said Sir Stafford had not arrived at any decision on the proposals, which call for government-owned and controlled manufacture and production of films, a government renting scheme, two circuits of theatres of 250 each to compete with existing commercial groups, and giving preference to British films.

Rank Satisfied

(*Continued from page* 1)

magazines and 16mm. journals were herded together but which also presented a half-dozen or more other principals to diffuse the interrogations over the field of experts.

For example, Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, served as sort of a conference master-of-ceremonies. He was flanked by Rank and Robert Young, who is accustomed to divided interests and has successfully diffused his own among railroads and motion pictures. He heads Pathe Industries which heads PRC, Eagle-Lion (with Rank), DuPont Film and other interests.

Flanking Rank and Young were John Davis, Rank's chief aide; Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal-International; Matthew Fox, vice-president of Universal-International; Robert Benjamin, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization here, and Arthur Krim, president of Eagle-Lion.

Questions concerning revenue of British films in this market, either to date or anticipated for this year, were side-stepped with the explanation that those films are not yet in full distribution here and the figures could be misinterpreted, therefore.

Rank said he had no definite dollar goal in this market, his principal aim at this time being to get British pictures more playing time.

Johnston emphasized that the American industry's official aim is to effect the free exchange of films throughout the world and, as part of that program, to show an increasing number of British pictures here.

Young spoke for reciprocal trade throughout the world and said he was practicing what he preached not only by distributing British pictures here but by spending more money in marketing them than they can return. The purpose, he said, is to establish British films in this country.

Asked whether he had any "progressive" ideas for films such as his recent innovations in railroading, Young implied that he did not by answering that he would "be busy with New York Central for some time to come." Currently, he is seeking control of that line.

Discussing the British Films Act, or quota law, Rank said that the producers' association, of which he is president, had made no "revolutionary proposals" for changes. He said that Britain's dollar problem cannot be tied to the quota law. "While we have dollars," he said, "we will buy films."

Kupper's New Title

William J. Kupper's new title at 20th Century-Fox is managing director of 20th Century-Fox Film Co. of Great Britain, Ltd. He will sail for London about July 2.

Music Hall Luncheon To Honor Rank Today

J. Arthur Rank will be honor guest today at a luncheon to be given by G. S. Eyssell, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall, in the theatre's studio apartment.

Among others invited are Robert R. Young, of Pathe Industries, Inc.; Arthur Krim, president of Eagle-Lion; Robert Benjamin, president, J. Arthur Rank, Inc. (U. S.); Matthew Fox, president, Universal International; John Davis, managing director, J. Arthur Rank, Ltd.; Thomas Deegan, Jr., of the Rank Organization; Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal; and Barton P. Turnbull, Vanderbilt Webb, Thomas M. Debevoise and Russell V. Downing, all of Rockefeller Center, Inc.

Rank will also be guest today at a cocktail party at the Metropolitan Club, given by Universal.

Monogram Closing

(*Continued from page* 1)

studio has two pictures shooting, both scheduled to finish within the week.

Although Broidy declined to particularize, it is understood that current negotiations between the Screen Actors Guild and all producers for new contracts, originally set for conclusion May 15, but now expected to require some kind of an interim agreement to bridge over a longer period, and anticipated conferences between producers and striking carpenters and painters unions are among the factors leading to a shutdown decision.

Monogram is not among the struck studios but production costs would be affected nevertheless by a new contract granted any guild or union.

From the World's Greatest Showman

Pitching Horseshoes ... By Billy Rose

Last night I saw a pre-release screening of a new British who-perpetrated-it called "Green for Danger." Murder, guv'nor! It makes Hollywood's recent shoot-'em-ups look like pillow fights in a girls' dormitory. It features a civilized funnyman named Alastair Sim who can spot Abbott and Costello sixty laughs. Producing, acting and writing—right up there with Mt. Everest.

to the Entertainment Leader of the Industry... Eagle-Lion!



J. ARTHUR RANK presents

"GREEN FOR DANGER"

starring

SALLY GRAY · ROSAMUND JOHN · TREVOR HOWARD

an EAGLE-LION FILMS release

and Introducing ALASTAIR SIM as INSPECTOR COCKRILL THE GREATEST DETECTIVE OF THEM ALL!

Produced by Frank Launder and Sidney Gilliat, who created "THE ADVENTURESS"

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

61. NO. 94 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1947 TEN CENTS

British Films Council Urges Flexible Quota

Holds British Films Are No Longer Second to US

LONDON, May 13.—The Government's Board of Trade's Cinematograph Films Council has recommended in a report to the Board abandonment of present footage and labor cost quota bases, and the substitution of a plan whereby British screens can be given a number of performances of British features as against American on a flexible quota to be fixed annually by the BOT. However, independent exhibitor Council members consider this proposal undesirable and unworkable.

Whereas British pictures formerly played second to American films in terms of audience acceptance, it is now unnecessary for British exhibitors to differentiate between American and British pictures in view of present audience predilections, the Council said in its report.

The Council's recommendations in

(*Continued on page 8*)

Rank Confers With E-L, Pathe Boards

J. Arthur Rank whirled through another crowded schedule here yesterday, holding conferences with business associates and attending a luncheon and a cocktail party at which he was guest of honor.

In the morning, he conferred with

(*Continued on page 8*)

Eagle-Lion to Make 12 at $18,000,000

HOLLYWOOD, May 13.—Eagle-Lion will produce 12 pictures on a total budget of $18,000,000 for its schedule starting July 1, Bryan Foy, production chief, discloses, with four among them in color, and costing $2,000,000 each.

Foy said, "I believe that the best answer to the fear of spreading talk of recession lies in good pictures, made as efficiently as possible and properly exploited and advertised," adding that time has come to accelerate production and increase budgets. The company will also release six Rank productions.

Heat Hits N.Y. First-Runs

New York first-run grosses went down as the thermometer went up this week. Drastic change from record cold last week to summer warmth resulted in the poorest income in months at a number of houses here.

"Duel in the Sun" was far and away the top money-maker, giving the Capitol a huge $97,000 in its first week, playing simultaneously at 38 other Loew's theatres. The film continues at the Capitol and bowed out of the circuit spots last night.

A reduction in admission prices brought the Astor more customers than last week, and about the same income, $33,000. The picture is "The Best Years of Our Lives" and the week is the 25th.

"Carnegie Hall" continues as a lively box-office number at two situations in its second week. The scoreboard at the Winter Garden reads $42,000

(*Continued on page 6*)

Predicts $8,000,000 'Henry' Gross in US

Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution for United Artists, predicts an $8,000,000 domestic gross for the J. Arthur Rank Technicolor film, "Henry V," produced and directed by Laurence Olivier.

Net profit accruing from the "Henry V" U. S. engagements is expected to hit $4,000,000. Operating under a "five-year plan," the picture celebrated

(*Continued on page 8*)

PCCITOFilm-Buying Formula Is In Work

Los Angeles, May 13.—Trustees of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, operating under instructions from the organization's convention, held here last week, are preparing a film-buying formula which will be "fair to all parties," and which will be submitted to all distributors by the PCCITO.

The trustees were additionally instructed to take action for improving advertising and accessories services.

Industry to Attend Rowland Services

Industry leaders will attend funeral services today for Richard A. Rowland, film pioneer, who died here Monday. Services will be held at 2 P.M. at Campbell's here.

Hundreds of old friends in the industry, including Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, and William Michel, executive vice-president of 20th Century-Fox, visited the Rowland home yesterday to express condolences to the widow.

Among those from 20th Century-Fox who will attend services are Michel, Donald A. Henderson, Joseph Moskowitz, Bert Bloch, Henry Klinger, Francis T. Kelly, Joseph Pincus, J. A. Lang, Emanuel Silverstone, and others.

Burial will be in the family plot in Homewood Cemetery, Pittsburgh.

21% British, 79% Foreign Films Shown in England

LONDON, May 13.—Registered films exhibited in the United Kingdom during the year ended Sept. 13, 1946, totaled 4,690,300,000 feet, compared with 4,609,500,000 in the previous year, the British Board of Trade announces.

Total footage of British films exhibited in the 1946 period was 983,400,000 feet, or 21 per cent of the grand total (the rest was mostly American —Ed.), as against 19.73 per cent for the previous period. British feature film percentage of the 1946 total was 18.58, compared with 16.99 per cent for the 1945 period. The differences were made up of newsreel and short subject footages.

BOT reports that 681 British ex-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Johnston Will Leave For Europe June 22

Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, now plans to tour Europe June 22, to be accompanied by Gerald Mayer, head of the MPA international division; Joyce O'Hara, Johnston's assistant, and possibly others.

Johnston's trip was cancelled last winter when upon reaching London he became ill and was forced to return to the U. S. A tentative itinerary includes England, Belgium, Holland, Germany, the Scandinavian countries, France and other areas.

WB Newsreel Set, Headed by Allen, Moray

Issued Twice Weekly, To Be of Standard Type

James Allen will head and Norman H. Moray will handle distribution of a Warner Brothers newsreel, to be issued starting in November, twice weekly of standard newsreel nature.



Harry M. Warner

Plans for a Warner newsreel, under consideration for several years and repeatedly reported ready for launching, but delayed by wartime shortages and other factors, now are completed, it was announced here yesterday by Harry M. Warner, president of the company.

Allen has been a member of the

(*Continued on page 7*)

$6,000,000 Budget Set by Bernstein

A budget of $5,000,000, plus an additional $1,000,000 for exploitation and advertising, has been set for the first two pictures to be made by the newly-formed Transatlantic Pictures Corp., it was disclosed here yesterday by Sydney Bernstein, head of the firm.

Bernstein, in a trade press interview here, said that he and Alfred Hitch-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Senate Passes Labor Measure, 64 to 28

WASHINGTON, May 13.—The Senate today by a 64-to-28 vote passed a sweeping labor-reform bill, banning the closed shop, restricting the union shop, granting the Government the

(*Continued on page 8*)

In This Issue

"The Woman on the Beach" is reviewed on page 8. Key city grosses are on page 6.

Personal Mention

LEONARD GOLDENSON, Paramount Theatres Service Corp. head, and ROBERT POWERS, his assistant, returned here yesterday from Arrowhead Springs, Cal.

•

WALTER L. TITUS, JR., Republic Southern division manager, left New York yesterday for Mexico City where he will join JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic distribution executive, on Saturday.

•

WILLIAM MAYBERY, 20th Century-Fox casting director on "Gentleman's Agreement," has left New York for the Coast.

•

W. C. GEHRING, Central sales manager of 20th-Fox, arrived in Kansas City yesterday.

•

SEYMOUR NEBENZAL, UA producer, is in New York from Hollywood.

Warner Concludes Philadelphia Meet

PHILADELPHIA, May 13.—Warner sales personnel covering the Mid-Atlantic district concluded a two-day meeting here today in connection with the company's current sales drive.

Norman Ayers, Eastern division sales manager, presided, with attendance including Robert Smeltzer, district manager; W. G. Mansell, local branch manager; Fred Beiersdorf, Washington manager; W. W. Brumberg, captain of the sales drive; Chares Beilan, Tom Noble, Dave M. Cooper, O. B. Guilfoil and B. F. Bache of the Philadelphia sales staff; Sterling Wilson, John Garst, John Walker and Leonard Pearlman of the Washington sales staff; George Hutcheon, Philadelphia office manager, and Eddie Phillips, Washington office manager.

Show Cinema Lodge Film at Memorial

New York's Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith will hold the premiere of the new film "This Is B'nai B'rith" at the Museum of Modern Art, here, on Monday, in connection with a memorial tribute to the late Henry Monsky, international president of B'nai B'rith, Robert M. Weitman, president of the Lodge announces.

The 27-minute film was produced for the Supreme Lodge of B'nai B'rith by film industry leaders. Ira A. Hirschmann, president of Metropolitan Broadcasting and Television, Inc., will be the principal speaker at the screening.

Rathvon in Academy Post

HOLLYWOOD, May 13.—N. Peter Rathvon has been appointed chairman of the finance committee of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Jean Hersholt, president of the Academy, announced today. Hersholt will leave on Thursday for a six-week trip to New York.

Sharp Rise in US Film Sent Abroad

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Exports of motion picture films and equipment during the first quarter of 1947 showed a sharp increase over the corresponding 1946 period, Nathan D. Golden, motion picture consultant for the Department of Commerce, announced today.

Exports of all types of motion picture films totalled 207,000,000 linear feet, valued at $3,844,369, according to the Department's figures. This compares with 128,000,000 feet, valued at $2,475,856, exported during the first three months in 1946.

Dollar value of film equipment exports rose 16 per cent, from $1,260,088 last year, to $3,357,792 this year.

Raw stock shipments, Golden reported, amounted to 130,000,000 linear feet, valued at $1,879,244 in the first quarter of 1947, more than twice the amount in the 1946 period, when 64,000,000 feet, valued at $895,851, was exported.

A total of 3,408 motion picture cameras and 7,963 projectors of all types were sent abroad during the January-March, 1947, period.

Griffis Nomination Approved by Senate

WASHINGTON, May 13.—The Senate Foreign Relations Committee today approved President Truman's nomination of Stanton Grffis, chairman of Paramount's executive committee, as Ambassador to Poland. Griffis succeeds Robert Bliss Lane.

Additionally, Griffis is a banker and a partner in Hemphill, Noyes and Co., which he founded, and is chairman of the board of the Madison Square Garden Corp., treasurer of Cornell-McClintic Productions and a director in many other corporations.

Two Pal Features For UA Release

George Pal, independent, will produce two "Puppetoon" cartoon features for United Artists release, a distribution contract with UA having been approved yesterday at a board meeting here. The novelty films will be in color. In the past Pal has made "Puppetoon" shorts for Paramount distribution.

The UA board also approved a pact with Argosy Productions, headed by John Ford, for the distribution of "The Last Outlaw," also color.

Paramount To Build Theatre in Miami

ATLANTA, May 13.—Paramount Enterprises, Miami, will build a new theatre there, to open about Dec. 1. Also, Abe Soloman, president of Independent Theatres, Chattanooga, will build a $100,000 house to seat about 1,000.

Devonshire in Deal

Devonshire Films has sold a Pittsburgh territory franchise to Crown Film Co. operated by Max Shulgold. Devonshire is distributing nationally Fox and UA reissues.

Stiffen Regulations For Ontario Houses

Toronto, May 13.—The theatres branch of the Ontario provincial government has announced stiffened penalties for violation of theatre regulations. The move follows an increased number of infractions. A second conviction will now leave a theatre subject to a one to five-day closing.

Schlaifer Continues Meetings in Field

CHICAGO, May 13.—Continuing his point-of-sale advertising discussions and general theatre survey in key centers, Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox director of advertising-publicity, held meetings here yesterday with Midwest exploiteers, exhibitors and local theatre advertising heads. The company's long-range advertising policy was discussed as well as immediate exploitation plans for "Miracle on 34th Street" and "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," both of which will be given extensive advertising, publicity and exploitation.

Schlaifer, who is enroute to Hollywood for studio conferences on forthcoming pictures, stopped in Washington last Saturday for a meeting with William Michaelson and Mike Weiss, Washington and Philadelphia exploiteers, and Sid Blumenstock, assistant exploitation manager, and a group of theatre men. He also will hold similar conferences in Kansas City. Christy Wilbert, advertising manager, Morris Kinzler of the Kayton-Spiero advertising agency, and Louis Shanfield, art director, joined Schlaifer in Chicago and will continue on to the Coast with him.

At the studio they will join Spyros Skouras, president; Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution; William J. Kupper, general sales manager, and Murray Silverstone, president of 20th Century-Fox International Corp., who will discuss distribution and advertising plans on forthcoming pictures with Joseph M. Schenck, executive production head, Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production, and Harry Brand, studio publicity director.

ASCAP Continues NAB Negotiations

Officials of the National Association of Broadcasters and the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers met here yesterday to consider reports by sub-committees on renewal of ASCAP pacts with radio. The negotiations are proceeding amicably, according to both Deems Taylor, ASCAP president, and Justin Miller, head of NAB.

Gen. Ingles to RCA

Maj. Gen. Harry C. Ingles, chief signal officer of the Army from July, 1943, to March, 1947, has been elected president and a director of RCA Institutes, Inc.

Newsreel Parade

THE visit of J. Arthur Rank to these shores is a newsreel highlight. On the international scene, there is the Palestine question before the UN. Other items include the ceremony of Swiss Guards at Vatican City and elections in Japan. Sports, humor and human interest round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 74—UN commission hears Jews and Arabs on Palestine problem. Election and fire in the heart of Tokyo. Visitors from abroad: J. Arthur Rank; Egypt's Queen mother. Photographic show picks model girl. Lew Lehr Featurettes: mama cat runs into trouble over her kittens. Faultless captures Preakness.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 272—UN hears plea for palestine. Communists in Japan defeated as nation elects Parliament. Egypt's Queen Mother arrives here. Chicago's champion mother. Clearing snow in Washington. Buchenwald avenged at war crimes trial. Preakness turf classic. Crackup champs: automotive daredevils.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 75—Death-dodger with a new twist: A daredevil auto driver. Veteran finds new way of panning gold. UN hears both sides on Palestine. Nazi loot: U. S. Army takes inventory. Tokyo: 30 buildings leveled in downtown blaze. Faultless wins Preakness.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 77—Japs at polls. J. Arthur Rank in New York. Jews and Arabs on Palestine at the UN. Fire sweeps Tokyo main street. The Preakness.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 38—Faultless wins Preakness. Rank visits the U. S. Ceremony of Swiss Guards at Vatican City. The festivity of the blessing of animals at Barcelona. Tokyo shopping district gutted by fire. "Mom" honored by 18 children at Chicago. Stunt woman badly hurt during dynamite explosion stunt.

FCC Video Meet in Capital on June 3

WASHINGTON, May 13.—The Federal Communications Commission has scheduled for June 3 an engineering conference to formulate a schedule of expected installation dates of common carrier facilities for the relaying of television programs between cities.

The conference, which will be held here, will be attended by television broadcasters, communications common carriers, manufacturers of television microwave equipment, and other interested persons.

According to the FCC, "such a conference seems desirable at this time to acquaint the broadcasters with the present plans of the common carriers for relaying television programs between cities, and to acquaint the common carriers, as well as the manufacturers who supply them, with the immediate needs of broadcasters for inter-city relay service."

'Immortal' Funmakers

Eleven comedians and humorists have been voted into the "Humor Hall of Fame" after a three-month poll by the National Laugh Week Foundation, sponsors of the newly proposed institution to immortalize funmakers. They are: Fred Allen, Will Rogers, Robert Benchley, Jack Benny, Charles Chaplin, Jimmy Durante, W. C. Fields, Marx Brothers, Damon Runyon, Mark Twain and James Thurber.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

BIG NEWS FOR THE FAMILY TRADE!



Okay Mr. and Mrs. America and offspring! We want you to know that M-G-M has launched the Biggest Production Program in movie history! Yes, Mr. M-G-M Exhibitor, your Friendly Studio is the busiest spot in California! We safeguard your business future with Big Stars in Big Entertainments! Millions of dollars in star names and production values for your public! Within the next few weeks all these mighty attractions will be under way:

"HIGH WALL"—Robert Taylor • Audrey Totter

"IF WINTER COMES"—Walter Pidgeon
Deborah Kerr • Angela Lansbury

"VIRTUOUS"—Van Johnson • June Allyson

"KILLER McCOY"—Mickey Rooney
Elizabeth Taylor

"ALIAS THE GENTLEMAN"—Wallace Beery
Tom Drake

"CASS TIMBERLANE"—Spencer Tracy
Lana Turner

"KISSING BANDIT" *(Technicolor)*
Frank Sinatra • Kathryn Grayson

"UPWARD TO THE STARS"—Bob Walker
Donna Reed

"ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU" *(Technicolor)*
Esther Williams • Peter Lawford • Ricardo Montalban • Cyd Charisse • Jimmy Durante

"SPEAK TO ME OF LOVE"—Greer Garson
Walter Pidgeon

"THREE MUSKETEERS" *(Technicolor)*
Gene Kelly • William Powell • Van Heflin
Lana Turner

"B. F.'s DAUGHTER"—Katharine Hepburn

"HOMECOMING OF ULYSSES"
Clark Gable • Deborah Kerr

"STATE OF THE UNION"—Spencer Tracy
Claudette Colbert

Irving Berlin's "EASTER PARADE"
(Technicolor) Gene Kelly • Judy Garland
Peter Lawford • Cyd Charisse

Yes, it's big news for America's millions! And as usual, it's M-G-M that leads the way with optimism, daring and greatness!

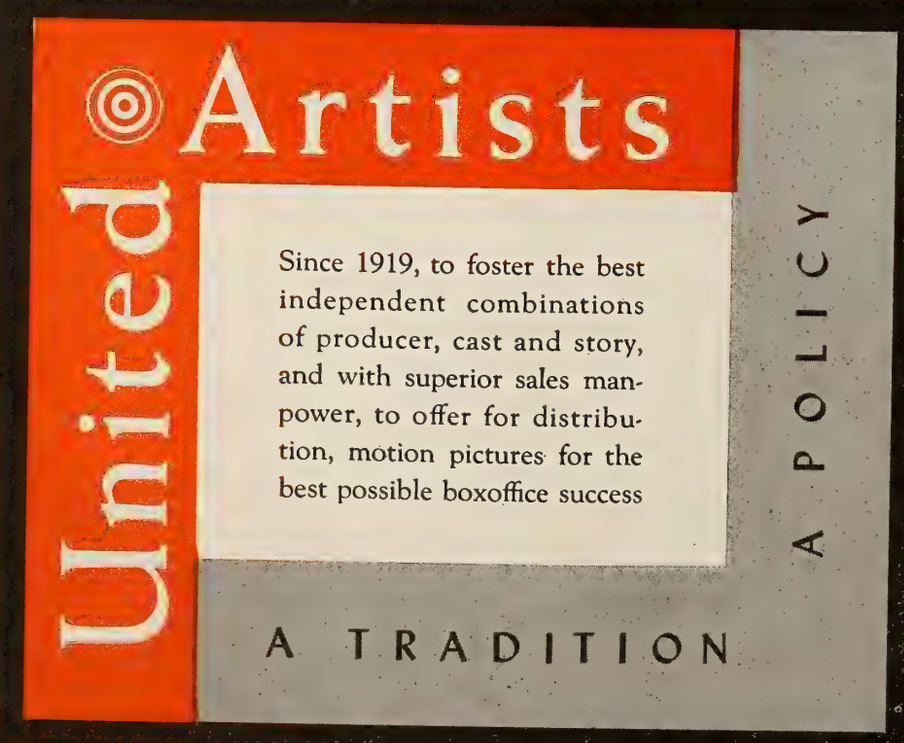
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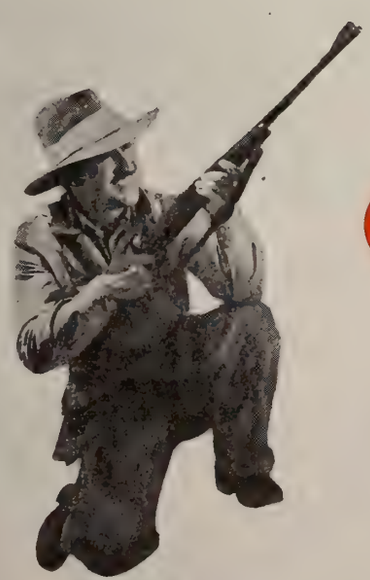
FAN MAIL! Last week we reported a series of Audience Previews of completed M-G-M attractions. We're still getting fan mail about these big hits: "THE HUCKSTERS," "SONG OF LOVE," "FIESTA" (*Technicolor*), "GREEN DOLPHIN STREET," "THE BIRDS AND THE BEES" (*Technicolor*), "CYNTHIA," "UNFINISHED DANCE" (*Technicolor*), "ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE," "LIVING IN A BIG WAY."

THIS IS THE FOURTEENTH IN A SERIES OF UNITED ARTISTS ADVERTISEMENTS TO THE TRADE

WHEN we call a motion picture "a natural", we mean it hits the target from any and every angle. It is the belief of United Artists that THE MACOMBER AFFAIR starring Gregory Peck, Joan Bennett and Robert Preston, and whose story is from the hard-hitting best-selling pen of Ernest Hemingway, is "a natural" —the best from every angle. What could be more "natural" then that the producer of THE MACOMBER AFFAIR, and coming outstanding great hits, CHRISTMAS EVE and A MIRACLE CAN HAPPEN,

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Adaptation by Seymour Bennett and Frank Arnold

Produced by BENEDICT BOGEAUS and CASEY ROBINSON

Directed by ZOLTAN KORDA

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

PHILADELPHIA

"The Farmer's Daughter" at the Mastbaum, and "The Egg and I" at the Goldman are doing the best business in town. "The Egg" is also doing well at the Karlton Theatre, where it was booked in at the same time as the Goldman. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 13-15:

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,-800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ARCADIA (900) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 6th week. Gross: $14,-000. (Average at regular prices of 54c-94c: $6,600)

SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: $16,700. (Average: $21,000)

BIG TOWN (Para.)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days. On stage, Louis Armstrong. Gross: 6 days, $22,500. **IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.).** Gross: 1 day, $2,000. (Total average: $31,700)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—GOLDMAN (1,-400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $30,-000. (Average: $24,000)

THE EGG AND I (UI)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $9,500)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,200)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $29,500)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PIX (500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 6th week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,000)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $18,800. (Average: $27,000)

ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,-700)

CINCINNATI

"The Egg and I," in its sixth week at Keith's, is doing outstanding business, and "The Farmer's Daughter," at the Shubert, had an excellent second week. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 13-16:

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,-000)

BACKLASH (20th-Fox) and CODE OF THE WEST (RKO Radio)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600)

WHAT PRICE VENGEANCE (Popular) and SILVER RANGE (Mono.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Gross: $1,100. (Average: $1,100)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—RKO GRAND (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 6th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $7,500)

LADIES' MAN (Para.) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000)

STALLION ROAD (WB)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c). Gross: $11,-000. (Average: $15,000)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $5,-000)

Satenstein to Coast On Marathon's First

Frank Satenstein, Broadway producer who is president and producer of the recently-formed Marathon Pictures, Inc., left New York by motor yesterday for Hollywood to start work on the first for the new firm.

On the Coast, Satenstein will be joined by Max Wilk, in charge of the story department, and Robert Joseph, associate producer for Marathon, who will fly out to meet him.



EAGLE-LION FILMS

EAGLE-LION FILMS, PRODUCERS OF THAT DISTINGUISHED COMEDY, "LOST HONEYMOON" —"A sure cure for the blues"—says Hedda Hopper

New York Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

for the week while at the Park the film is on its way to a lofty $16,000.

"Odd Man Out" fell off to an estimated $25,000 in its third week at the Criterion, substantially under the previous two weeks' business. And in a fifth week at the Broadway, "Monsieur Verdoux" looks for a meager $11,000. "Dishonored Lady" will follow on May 23.

In spite of the competition provided by the weatherman, the Music Hall lured fairly substantial income with "The Egg and I," the third week being figured at $118,000. "Great Expectations" probably will follow on May 22.

"Live and Learn" and Ina Ray Hutton's orchestra are likely to bring the Strand $38,000, about fair, in a second week, while the Hollywood with "The Two Mrs. Carrolls" in a sixth week should draw about $17,000, a favorable figure.

"Calcutta" and Duke Ellington's orchestra on the stage at the Paramount are a good box-office combination, having grossed $67,000 in a third week. "Homestretch" at the Roxy is running slowly in its third week with under $60,000 estimated.

"The Other Love" goes into the Rivoli today, following "The Farmer's Daughter" which drew a healthy $20,000 in its eighth and final week. "The Macomber Affair" seems headed for a $24,500 fourth week at the Globe, a good deal less than previous weeks.

The "encore" engagement of "The Jolson Story" at the Victoria slipped to an estimated $9,000 in a second week. The Gotham figures to take only about $7,500 in the second and final week of "Hit Parade of 1947." "The Guilty" will replace it on Saturday. The Rialto is doing about average with $7,300 apparent for a first and only week of "Violence," which will be succeeded on Friday by "Shoot to Kill." At the Palace, "Born to Kill" in a second week is very slim at an estimated $11,000.

570 'Cheyenne' Dates

Advance playdates set on "Cheyenne," which will have its world premiere May 22 in Cheyenne, total up to a new all-time record, with 570 opening dates already scheduled, according to the Warner Brothers playdate department. Theatres participating in the Rocky Mountain "Empire Preview" will number more than 180, about 80 more than originally expected.

Hawks to Do Kaye Film

Samuel Goldwyn has named Howard Hawks to direct "That's Life," Danny Kaye's next technicolor film.

Short Subject

"We Must Not Forget"

(RKO Pathe—UJA)

The critical need of the living and dying survivors of the Hitler reign is dramatized with moving eloquence in this short subject, produced by Dore Schary in behalf of the $170,0(illegible) nationwide drive of the United Jewish Appeal.

The subject features Eddie Cantor, whose narration supplements shifting scenes of social conditions abroad. It is effectively made and can stand on its own with any of the better documentaries on the subject. Exhibitors may obtain the subject through local chapters of the UJA. Running time, five minutes.

Paramount Shifts 2 Exploitation Aides

Changes in Paramount's field exploitation force have been made by Sid Mesibov, Paramount's assistant exploitation manager, sending James Levine, formerly special representative with headquarters in Pittsburgh, to Cleveland to replace J. M. Joice, who took over in Washington territory. Also, William Brooker, Philadelphia representative, has had Pittsburgh added to his territory.

Don McClure Elected New ATS President

Don McClure of N. W. Ayer and Son, Inc., has been elected president of the American Television Society, succeeding George Shupert. Other new officers are: Bert Taylor, Jr., Du Mont Television, vice-president; Dian Dincin, Pictorial Research, secretary and Archibald U. Braunfeld, accountant, treasurer.

Kentucky Ritz Burns

LOUISVILLE, May 13. — Electric power service to the city of Hickman was cut off in a fire which destroyed the Ritz Theatre and threatened adjacent buildings. Loss was estimated at approximately $25,000. The building is owned by the Ruffin Amusement Co., of Nashville, which operates a circuit in Kentucky and Tennessee.

Thomson Is Foy Aide

HOLLYWOOD, May 13. — Kenneth Thomson has been appointed executive assistant to Bryan Foy, succeeding Irving Lazar who resigned from the Eagle-Lion post last week to enter independent production for E-L release.

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Variety Convention To Open Today

LOS ANGELES, May 13.—With 90 per cent of the expected attendance registered before nightfall, the Variety Clubs International convention promised to set all time high mark when the first business session opens here tomorrow morning.

Indiana's Senator Capehart, who will be among the principal speakers at Saturday night's "Humanitarian Award" dinner, is due tomorrow and will be greeted by California's Governor Warren and a police escort.

Texas and San Francisco delegations arrived today enmasse, latter including national officers who last night inducted new Tent 32 in that city.

"The story of Variety Clubs" will be dramatized Saturday over the Mutual Network, with Teresa Wright and Jimmy Cagney in stellar roles.

14 Additional Players For Variety Club Show

HOLLYWOOD, May 13.—Additional star talent set to appear in the show being put on at the Warner studio as part of the Humanitarian Awards dinner of the Variety Clubs International on Saturday include Ann Sheridan, Ronald Reagan, Alexis Smith, Joyce Reynolds, Zachary Scott, Martha Vickers, Alan Hale, Gale Robbins, Angela Greene, Eve Arden, Geraldine Brooks, Dorothy Malone, Forrest Tucker and Kyle MacDonnell.

Jack Carson will be master of ceremonies, with Leo Forbstein's studio orchestra supplying the music. Jack L. Warner will be the host.

Polan Banks Heads New Picture Corp.

Formation of a new company, Federated Pictures, Corp., with Polan Banks as president, James B. Cassidy as vice-president in charge of production, was announced here yesterday.

The company has purchased from Mary Pickford the novel, "There Goes Lona Henry," for $200,000, plus a share of the profits. They will produce the picture in partnership with Miss Pickford for United Artists release. The production is budgeted at $1,500,000.



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To Discuss Johnston Idea on Shorts

Beverly Hills, May 13.—MPA President Eric Johnston's plan for presenting the motion picture industry to the public in its own medium, as short subjects, will come up for full dress discussion next Monday at Beverly Hills Hotel when representatives of exhibition, production and talent meet here to confer with an MPA committee under the chairmanship of N. Peter Rathvon.

SGP to Elect New Directors Today

HOLLYWOOD, May 13.—More than 50 Screen Guild Productions franchise holders, district sales managers, home office executives and salesmen convened at the Hollywood Roosevelt today for the opening session of the company's first anniversary convention. In addition to the stockholders' meeting and the election of officers, the board of directors will submit their annual reports tomorrow. John J. Jones, president, was chairman.

Among those attending are: Robert L. Lippert, executive vice-president; F. A. Bateman, general sales manager; Madison Schwer, assistant to the president; Arthur Lockwood, vice-president; John Franconi, secretary; S. K. Decker, treasurer; L. H. Prinzmetal, counsel, and Jack Cartwright, advertising-publicity chief.

21% British

(*Continued from page* 1)

hibitors defaulted last year on the feature film quota, whereas, in the previous period, 1,014 defaulted. A breakdown of the 1946 figure reveals that 102 exhibitors showed under 10 per cent of British quota requirements; 192 showed between 10 and 12½ per cent, and 387 showed between 12½ and 15 per cent. In the previous period, 198 showed under 10 per cent; 261 showed between 10 and 12½ per cent, and 555 showed between 12½ and 15 per cent. The quota is 15 per cent yearly.

Eighty-three British feature films were registered with the BOT during the year ended March 31, 1946, compared with 67 for the previous year.

Smith, LeVien Abroad

Harry W. Smith, RKO Pathe director-cameraman, and John D. LeVien, news editor of RKO Pathe News, will leave here for Europe today, by American Airlines for four weeks coverage of the European situation. The latter will visit Pathe News in London and Pathe Journal in Paris, as well as other contacts on the Continent, in order to tighten up news coverage. Smith will cover various assignments in connection with forthcoming issues of the "This Is America" series.

Contract Suit Starts

Trial of a $250,000 breach-of-contract suit, brought against Republic Pictures by General Overseas Corp., has started here before U. S. District Court Judge Simon H. Rifkind, without a jury. Exclusive distribution rights to 32 pictures in certain European territories is at issue.

Kersken Promoted to District Manager

SAN FRANCISCO, May 13.—Herman Kersken, manager of the Market Street Theatre here, has been transferred to the Oakland-Bay area as district manager, by Charles Skouras, Fox West Coast Theatres head, in the course of a visit here for general meetings with managers. Fay Reeder succeeds Kersken.

Other changes announced by Skouras include: Harry Seipel, now in the Bay District, will return to the Peninsula; Rick Ricord goes in as Valley manager, and Fred Glass, formerly handling that territory, will take over the district farther South.

New WB Newsreel

(*Continued from page* 1)

Warner studio executive staff since 1943, and at one time was head of public relations for the Department of Justice in Washington. He has been in New York for the past week conferring with Warner and will return to the Coast on Friday for further talks with Jack L. Warner, vice-president in charge of production, regarding the new project. On his return to New York again, early next month, Allen will start assembling his newsreel staff. Applicants already are under consideration for most of the key spots, and other positions will be filled from available personnel.

Headquarters of the Newsreel will be in New York, and the company's film laboratory in Brooklyn will handle the job of turning out prints.

Technical aspects of the new project, including necessary equipment, have been worked out by Col. Nathan Levinson, head of sound activities at the Warner studio, who also has been in the East for the past month.

$6,000,000 Budget

(*Continued from page* 1)

cock, who is an equal partner, have formed two companies, one to operate in the U. S. and the other in England.

The two pictures are "Hope," to start in Hollywood in September, and "Under Capricorn," a Technicolor film, to start in May, 1948. Bernstein explained that other directors may work with the company on a percentage basis, but that he and Hitchcock will retain control.

The financing of the $6,000,000 has been arranged with Bankers Trust Co. of New York, Bernstein said. He and Hitchcock are building up stories at present, and have purchased "I Confess," written by Louis Verneuil.

Bernstein is now negotiating with American companies on distribution deals. He explained that he did not plan to establish a large company, producing only a limited number of pictures. The firm has already filed an application to build studios in England, and has purchased a site in Denham.

Jacobson to Produce, PRC May Release

Benn Jacobson, Eagle-Lion Studio representative at the New York home office since its inception last September, has resigned, effective immediately, to enter production, brought to fruition by his recent purchase of "The Master's Chair," which he is ready to begin filming.

Currently, discussions are under way between Jacobson and Producers Releasing Corp. covering release deals.

Bernstein will visit the Coast next week, remaining in the country for about eight weeks.



U-I to Set Pattern On Rank Promotion

Working as a team, three executives of the Universal-International Eastern advertising-publicity department, will visit six key cities to lay the foundation for future campaigns on J. Arthur Rank's "Odd Man Out." The tour, which begins next week, will set a pattern for future development of campaigns for Rank productions released through Universal-International.

Maurice Bergman, head of the department here, Al Horwits, publicity manager, and Charles Simonelli, special events director, will tour Detroit, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Louisville, Indianapolis and Chicago. They will show "Odd Man Out" to the critics of these cities, as well as to radio commentators and newspaper columnists, advertising, publicity and exploitation campaigns will be discussed with theatre representatives. The campaigns developed at the meetings will be carried out by field men who will follow into these territories.

8 Millions for 'Henry'

(*Continued from page* 1)

its first anniversary in April with a $2,250,000 gross and over a $1,100,000 net profit. The figure was reached with only 16 prints in operation. With the arrival of a larger number of additional prints, however, future bookings of the picture will be accelerated, it was said.

Plans are now being formulated by Harold Auten, J. Arthur Rank U. S. representative, and Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., U. A. ad-publicity director, whereby shorter engagements with special campaigns will be put into effect with a more widespread distribution of "Henry V" than before. Auten will continue to handle bookings and charting of playdates with Lazarus, Jr.

The staff of advance field representatives in the United States has been increased to 23 men. U. A. has named Howard E. Kohn II to handle advertising-publicity on "Henry V" operations. Starting in June, 39 towns in the Los Angeles and San Francisco area will play "Henry V."

By June 1, U. A. will have played off 173 engagements, of which 52 will have been Canadian showings.

Rank Confers

(*Continued from page* 1)

the board of Eagle-Lion, moved on to a conference with the board of Pathe Industries, and then was guest of G. S. Eyssell, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall at the theatre's studio apartment.

In the afternoon, Rank conferred with James Franey, president of United World, and also with J. Arthur Rank associates and religious leaders of the World's Sunday School Association.

This was followed by a cocktail party given by Universal's board of directors at the Metropolitan Club. Last night, he was a dinner guest of Robert R. Young, head of Pathe Industries, at Young's suite at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, and then accompanied Young to a performance of "Years Ago," starring Fredric March and Florence Eldridge.

After additional conferences today, Rank is slated to leave for Chicago.

Review

"The Woman on the Beach"

(RKO Radio)

A STRANGELY unfolding drama of brooding moods and strong emotions is offered in RKO Radio's "The Woman on the Beach." With a cast that includes Joan Bennett, Robert Ryan and Charles Bickford, and a story that mounts engrossingly, the problem of exploitation is an easy one for exhibitors. However, the plot, in its intense development and often cloudy implication, is one that makes concentrative demands on the audience.

The screenplay of Frank Davis and Jean Renoir focuses on Ryan, a nightmare-haunted Coast Guard officer, who on a routine tour of the beach meets and falls under the fascination of Miss Bennett. Miss Bennett, however, is married to Bickford, a blind, strong-willed painter who seemingly holds her more through threat than tenderness. As the infatuation develops, Ryan decides to rescue Miss Bennett from Bickford's hold. The latent hostility between the two men finally erupts in a violent struggle in a little fishing boat, with both narrowly escaping death.

The gloomy dilemma of the hopeless triangle approaches a solution when Bickford, in a crazed outburst, sets fire to his house and paintings, then offers Miss Bennett her freedom. At this point, however, Miss Bennett, for reasons not altogether convincing, decides that her bond to Bickford is stronger and wiser than her infatuation with Ryan.

Dealing with sick and thwarted emotions, the atmosphere of the film, based on the novel, "None So Blind," by Mitchell Wilson, is at times morally questionable.

As the wholesome, pleasant-faced girl who genuinely loves and waits for Ryan, Nan Leslie's performance is like a cooling breeze in the fevered atmosphere. The role of Miss Bennett as the scheming and faithless wife, provides her ample opportunity for histrionic display. Bickford's role, superbly acted, holds a rugged appeal.

Renoir also directed, with Jack J. Gross as executive producer and Will Price as associate producer.

Running time, 71 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, June.

MANNY HERBSTMAN

British Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

general are considered remarkable for the degree of minority dissent, due obviously to the conflicting interests represented: production, renters, exhibitors.

The Council also recommends that a more effective means is necessary for distinguishing between feature and short films. It has proposed separate quotas for principal features and supporting programs, the latter covering second features, documentaries, etc., but excluding newsreels. There were no dissentments on this point.

It was also recommended that the present informal arrangement whereby, at the suggestion of the BOT, the three major British circuits play more British films than legislatively required, be given statutory authority. The independent exhibitors, foreseeing a greater reduction in available British product for them, dissented.

Differential quotas, it was recommended, should be imposed in the following order: three combine circuits and West End pre-release houses; any group, including cooperatively-booked theatres with a minimum of $16,000 average weekly combined grosses; independent houses which have not more than two other theatres located within two miles; lowest rates for all other theatres with the proviso that theatres with less than $400 weekly grosses are to be entirely exempt from quota provisions. The independent exhibitors dissented from the proposal on the ground that smaller circuits having no production-distribution affiliations would be penalized.

Recommendation of abandonment of the present footage and labor cost bases for the substitute plan was made with a view toward the desirability of building up British documentary production under an arrangement similar to the "supporting program."

Other recommendations: A labor cost test of $2.00 per foot should be imposed on all shorts claiming quota rating (exhibitors and certain independent Council members bitterly opposed this); differential quotas for combine circuits and West End pre-release houses to be above 33 per cent, any group including cooperatively-booked theatres to be 30 per cent, independent houses to be 25 per cent, others, with the exception of small exempted theatres, 10 per cent. Exhibitors claim these percentages are too high and would lead inevitably to widespread defaults.

Also recommended: abolition of the distributors quota (this is opposed by independent exhibitors who assert the proposal will leave them at the mercy of the combines); a barring clause that booking be abandoned, urging that the practice militates against financial profit accruing to an individual film; the BOT be empowered to appoint an arbitrator for all distributor-exhibitor disputes; the BOT examine the Kinemateographic Renters Society exhibitors' cooperative booking system; the government should create an additional circuit by compulsory acquirement from existing major circuits of a given number of theatres; encouragement be given to mergers of existing small circuits, and that the new quota legislation should apply equally to 16mm. and 35mm. films.

Ask New State Dep't Information Bureau

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson and Assistant Secretary William Benton today urged Congress to enact legislation authorizing an overseas information program in the State Department. They opened the hearings of a House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on a bill introduced by Rep. Mundt to accomplish this goal.

Acheson called the program one for "world-wide understanding" and termed it a vital part of our entire U. S. foreign policy.

Meanwhile, House Appropriations Committee chairman Tabor repeated his promise of $5,000,000 or $6,000,000 for the program if "it's cleaned up and if they get rid of the incompetents." However, he said, there must first be authorizing legislation.

AFL Still Stalled On Jurisdiction

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Representatives of disputing Hollywood unions adjourned their all-day meeting at 5:30 P.M. today without having reached agreement on procedure to end Hollywood jurisdictional strikes. The conference will be resumed at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

No indication was given over what progress has been made on the question of setting up an arbitration system, nor was it stated whether there would be another meeting of the group after tomorrow.

Earlier today, AFL President William Green indicated that the possibility of setting up either a tripartite arbitration board or a one-man arbitrator would be discussed.

Those present at today's meeting were: Arthur D. Hill, Jr.; F. A. Fitzgerald, L. O. Wilson of the IUOE; Joseph A. Padway, general counsel of the AFL; J. W. Garvey and Faust Moreschi of the Laborers International Union; John E. Rooney, Walter A. Redmond and James M. Myles of the OP and CFIA; Fred A. Tobin, Washington representative of the Teamsters; W. H. Cooper, Building Service Employees; Paul Dulzell, AAAA; Richard F. Walsh, IATSE; Pat Somerset and Edward Arnold of the Screen Actors Guild; L. P. Lindelof, Herbert K. Sorrell, Ed Gilbert and William J. Gallagher, painters and decorators; Max J. Krug and Paul R. Hutchinson of the Office Employes; A. Rex Riccardi of the Musicians Union; D. W. Tracy and C. P. Hughes of the Electrical Workers; W. C. O'Neill and John L. Spalding of the Plumbers; Earl L. McGill of the Radio Directors Guild; and Charles A. Constable of the Drivers.

Passes Labor Measure

(*Continued from page* 1)

right to obtain injunctions against strikes in industries affecting the public welfare, and imposing a host of other restrictions on labor unions.

Jurisdictional strikes and secondary boycotts would be made unfair labor practices, and employers injured by these practices would be given the right to sue for damages.

The bill now goes to a House-Senate conference. The House previously had approved a considerably "tougher" bill.

Irving Lazar Named Eagle-Lion Producer

HOLLYWOOD, May 13.—Irving P. Lazar, who has been executive assistant to Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of production at Eagle-Lion Studios, since the company was established a year ago, has been elevated to the rank of producer and will assume his new duties next week. As a first assignment, Lazar will take over production of "New Girl in Town," which is to go before the cameras in July with a budget of $1,500,000.

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Unesco Urges National Film Groups

Film Chief Also Tells of Duty-Free World Program

WASHINGTON, May 14.—Organization of national film groups must be promoted in order that they may act as clearing houses for special categories of this country's film production, according to William Farr, senior counselor of films for the mass media division of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Farr stresses the need for such national film agencies in aiding UNESCO's film division to procure films that could be used internationally. If UNESCO workers and film makers —whether Government or institutional—could confer while a film is scheduled for, or in, production, Farr said, minor changes could be made which would make the film usable is areas all over the world.

UNESCO officials are now working on a plan whereby all educational, scientific and cultural films will be permitted duty-free entry into all countries that have signed the Con-

(*Continued on page* 11)

Pat Casey Resigns Studio Labor Post

Pat Casey has relinquished the post of labor relations representative for the principal Coast studios, his office here confirmed yesterday. Casey was not available for comment on his future plans.



Pat Casey

Upon Casey's own recommendation, his duties have been absorbed by Charles Boren, recently appointed manager of the Association of Motion Picture Producers.

Casey has been in the industry a number of years, first as a booking agent and subsequently labor executive for the producers, and down through the years represented them in many studio labor negotiations concerning new union contracts and controversies.

Variety's 11th Convention Opens



International News Soundphoto, wired yesterday to MOTION PICTURE DAILY from Los Angeles, shows, left to right, Charles P. Skouras, Robert J. O'Donnell, W. H. Lollier and Marko Wolf, at the opening of the 11th annual convention of the Variety International Clubs at the Los Angeles Ambassador Hotel. Story on page 6.

Local '306' to Seek 5% Welfare Fund

Contract negotiations, which will include, for the first time, a request by the union for a five per cent welfare fund, will soon begin between representatives of the Loew, RKO, Skouras and Randforce circuits here and Projectionists Local No. 306, IATSE.

A union spokesman refused to deny or confirm the report that the operators will seek a 32 per cent wage increase. However, he said that the union would ask for time and a half for Saturdays and double time for Sundays. The present two-year contract expires on Aug. 31.

Although no meeting date has been fixed, the union is formulating a list of demands and has appointed a negotiating committee of 13. Negotiations will cover 1,200 operators.

'48 Film Festival in Academy-MPA Talks

HOLLYWOOD, May 14.—An International Film Festival here in 1948 will be among the subjects to be discussed by committees of the Motion Picture Association and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences meeting on matters of mutual interest. With Eric Johnston still to name the MPA's delegates, the Academy yesterday added Mary McCall, Jr and Delmer Daves to its unit comprising Jean Hersholt, Walter Wanger and Donald Nelson.

KMTA Convention Set for the Fall

KANSAS CITY, May 14.—Directors of the Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association, meeting here, decided on holding this year's convention in the fall, probably in October, but not earlier than the first of that month.

Reports on state legislation showed that no bills affecting theatres were introduced in the Kansas legislature, which has adjourned, and in Missouri, only one bill introduced, of several affecting theatres, is still alive. It would require uniformed fire guards to be stationed at theatres.

Homer Strowig, president of the KMTA, has been appointed an alternate to Mitchel Wolfson to represent the MPTOA at the Eric Johnston industry meeting in Hollywood on May 19.

Rank Ends NY Talks: To Chicago Today

J. Arthur Rank continued his heavy schedule of conferences yesterday, meeting board members of Universal and interviewing writers. He will go to Chicago this afternoon for a two-day stay and will then journey to Toronto, arriving there Saturday.

In the morning, he conferred with Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal; Matthew Fox, vice-president of Universal-International; Robert

(*Continued on page* 11)

Strike-Barring Formula Slated By AFL Heads

4-Man Group To Begin Investigation at Once

WASHINGTON, May 14.—A plan under which studio jurisdictional strikes will be barred for all time will be drawn up by a special committee consisting of the presidents of five international unions in the American Federation of Labor. This was a unanimous decision reached here today at the close of a two-day conference between representatives of the 12 AFL unions which have Hollywood affiliates.

Named to the committee, which held its first meeting today, were: Richard F. Walsh, IATSE; Dan W. Tracy, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of America; D. J. Tobin, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America; Lawrence P. Lindelof, Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, and Paul Dullzell, Associated Actors and Artistes of America.

The committee, it was decided, will study all phases of jurisdictional disputes on the Coast, analyze the causes of such disputes, draft a plan providing for the peaceful settlement of such disputes when they arise in the future, and submit this plan to all the unions involved for their approval.

William Green, AFL president, who

(*Continued on page* 11)

Depinet Host at RKO Golf Tourney Today

Ned E. Depinet will be host today at RKO Radio's 11th annual golf tournament at the Westchester Country Club. Over 400 industry figures will attend the all-day affair which will be highlighted by dinner in the clubhouse at which time prizes will be awarded. John A. Farmer and R.

(*Continued on page* 11)

Connors, Henderson, White in 'Heart' Drive

Headed by a committee composed of Tom J. Connors and Donald A. Henderson of 20th Century-Fox, and William A. White of Skouras Theatres, the industry here has launched a campaign to raise its quota in the New York Heart Association's 1947 drive for $500,000.

Personal Mention

TOM J. CONNORS, 20th Century-Fox distribution chief, is expected back in New York next week from the Coast.

•

BILL BROWN, Loew's Poli-Bijou manager, New Haven, and MRS. BROWN are expected here tomorrow in celebration of their 29th wedding anniversary.

•

LEO MCCAREY, producer, and EARL RETTIG, Rainbow Productions secretary-treasurer, have returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

LOUIS J. KAUFMAN, Warner Circuit executive, returned here yesterday after a trip to the Cleveland and Pittsburgh zones.

•

GEORGE SHARF, of M-G-M's legal department, has returned to the home office from a trip to New Haven.

•

JACK HARRIS, Loew's Theatres New York division manager, is back after a Florida vacation.

Services Held for Richard A. Rowland

Industry leaders, headed by Nicholas M. Schenck and Ned E. Depinet, attended funeral services yesterday for the late Richard A. Rowland, film pioneer, at Campbell's at Madison and 81st here. The Rev. David Pyle of St. Thomas Church officiated. Burial was in the family plot in Homewood Cemetery, Pittsburgh.

Among those attending were J. Robert Rubin, Martin Quigley, George Skouras, Mrs. Spyros Skouras, Si Fabian, E. J. Warner, Frederic Ullman, Jr., E. M. Saunders, Joseph Pincus, Joseph H. Moskowitz, Tom Terris, Earl Wingart, Charles Alicoate, Sam Dembow, Jr., Richard Barthelmess, Bert Lytell, Maurice Lavigne, Tom Murray, Edward F. Churchill and Mrs. Churchill, Robert W. Perkins, C. B. Maddock, Ralph Poucher, Paul C. Mooney, Sr., Harvey Day, Red Kann, Edward Ettinger, Irving Lesser, Jules Levey, Walter Moore, Margaret Cammack, Lamoyne Jones, George Generalis and Florence Strauss.

Feld to Eagle-Lion In St. Louis Area

William Feld has been named special sales representative for Eagle-Lion in the territory covering St. Louis, Kansas City, Omaha and Des Moines, by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and sales manager.

Feld long has been associated with the industry in various sales positions in the Pittsburgh, Chicago, St. Louis and Des Moines territories.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

THE march of events, so often brusque, found a distant place only for Dick Rowland in the final years of his almost half century in show business. He was in his heyday as the organizer of Metro. He was the man of decision where the famed "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse" was concerned. He was the discoverer of Rudolph Valentino and the aggressive and pyrotechnic general manager of the original First National.

It was Rowland who was responsible for the noted and now historic series of box-office smashes in which Colleen Moore and Corinne Griffith starred. Faithful memories will recall such attractions as "Flaming Youth," "So Big" and the whole formidable array of money-makers which jet-propelled First National into the very forefront of industry ranks back in the '20s.

Rowland was colorful, imaginative and yet realistic. He was too show-wise to harbor illusion, but never too encrusted to resist sentiment. He lived expansively and he worked expansively. As an impresario in celluloid, he maintained the classical tradition and embroidered it with designs of his own making. He was hale fellow met, and merry, and always traveling the entire road in wide open throttle for his friends.

The archives of this industry would be barren of their proper documentation without a recognition of the part Dick Rowland played in enscrolling his own colorful chapter.

■ ■

Reflecting on costs, there is the case of a major whose distribution expense has jumped 50 per cent from '42 to '46. About half of this is represented by wage increases to union employes in exchanges. The rest is represented by stepped-up expense allowance to salesmen, taxes on communications [railroads, planes and telephones] materials and about 100 more employes. The added staff, however, is all in the lower salary bracket.

■ ■

Warners and Paramount are buying in large blocks of their common stock. Warner declares its intention of holding these securities in the treasury for "general corporate purposes." Paramount doesn't say, but already has accumulated a total of 258,500 shares at a cost of $7,222,533 at an average of $27.94 per share.

Could be to finance theatre deals made mandatory under the decree, couldn't it? Or to finance such matters as the acquisition of Liberty by Paramount, if and when?

■ ■

Fred S. Meyer, long in charge of labor relations for 20th Century-Fox, writes from the coast:

"We have been trying to define jurisdiction for almost three years. If you want to know why we are unable to distinguish between set assembly and set erection maybe the attached clipping from the Los Angeles *Herald* will help."

The clipping, dealing with the studio strike, reads in part:

"The dispute between the car he strangled to death Mrs. Lund over which the studios had jurisdiction over certain work."

Everything clear now?

■ ■

Highly legal routines were observed when Howard Dietz organized The Sea of Grass Land Co. Si Seadler, as one of the signatories, thereafter began to receive mail from those trying to sell him something. Most amusing was a letter from the Industrial Advertising Department of the Associated Electronics Co. addressed to The Sea of Grass Land Co.

Evidently this must have induced a chain reaction. Jeff Livingston of Universal has just forwarded Seadler a newspaper clipping referring to "*Cass* Timberlane" as "*Cash* Timberlane." No objections from Si.

■ ■

Joe Skeptic certainly gets around. Now he picks up Campbell Dixon's review of "It's a Wonderful Life" in the London *Daily Telegraph*. Dixon, not keen for the film, refers to it as "pure corn." And adds, "In fact, Capracorn."

A beautiful line which may be old, but not to us.

■ ■

Izzy Rappaport, Baltimore first run operator, usually spends each Monday in New York. Last week, however, he was discovered here on Tuesday as well. "Held over by popular demand," he said.

■ ■

A Grad Sears definition:

"It opened low and just kept on going."

18 Conferees for MPA Coast Meet

HOLLYWOOD, May 14.—With RKO's N. Peter Rathvon presiding, conferees of production, distribution and exhibition have been designated by those respective branches to attend the industry meeting called here for Monday by MPA president Eric Johnston. Its primary purpose will be to confer with a Motion Picture Association committee on "possibilities of producing a series of short subjects" presenting the industry to the public to promote goodwill. The series would be the first of several contemplated.

Representing exhibition at the Monday meeting will be: R. B. Wilby, American Theatres Association; Morris Loewenstein, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America; Jack Stewart and Sam Switow, Allied States Association; Hugh Bruen, Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Exhibitors; Claude Lee and Thornton Sargent, affiliated theatre circuits.

With Rathvon, Jack L. Warner will represent the Motion Picture Theatres Association; Donald Nelson and I. E. Chadwick will represent independent producers; Jean Hersholt, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences; Lester Cole and F. Hugh Herbert, the Screen Writers Guild; Billy Wilder and Delmer Daves, the Screen Directors Guild, and Warner Anderson and Lou Armen, the Screen Actors Guild.

Monday's meeting is contemplated as the first of several planned to canvass industry opinion on the project before any concrete action is taken.

'Miracle' Will Have Special Promotion

A tie-in arrangement with the National Retailers Dry Goods Association, numbering 7,500 member stores throughout the country, will support 20th Century-Fox premieres of "Miracle on 34th Street," next month in key cities, it was announced by Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity.

Lew Hahn, president of the NRDGA, has urged retailers' cooperation in bringing the picture to the public's attention. Concentrated promotion is planned to cover a period of three weeks before the premiere showings.

Griffis Wins Senate Approval as Envoy

WASHINGTON, May 14.—The Senate today confirmed the nomination of Stanton Griffis as Ambassador to Poland. Griffis is chairman of Paramount's executive committee.

A Senate subcommittee yesterday recommended confirmation.

Spiegel Drive Officer

Marc Spiegel has been appointed lieutenant for the Phil Reisman "Four Seasons Drive," annual billing contest in honor of the RKO Radio vice-president in charge of foreign distribution. Spiegel will assist various drive supervisors, also Robert Hawkinson, drive committee chairman.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Four years of preparation
are now concluded for

WARNERS' NEWSREEL

to be produced and distributed
twice each week beginning

NOV. 1st !!!


To be
happy
you have
to have
"LOVE"!
when it's

Enterprise Studios present

BARBARA STANWYCK and DAVID NIVEN in

David Lewis' Production of Erich Maria Remarque's

"THE other LOVE"

with

RICHARD CONTE

GILBERT ROLAND • JOAN LORRING • LENORE AUBERT

MARIA PALMER • NATALIE SCHAFER • Screenplay by Ladislas Fodor and Harry Brown

Adapted from the short story "Beyond" by Erich Maria Remarque • Directed by ANDRE de TOTH

You have to have it after its record-breaking, sensational long runs at the Empire and other theatres, London...

You have to have it after its record-breaking New York RIVOLI THEATRE PREMIERE where it's now doing Broadway's Brightest Business!

"LOVE" that UA!

Variety Clubs to Pick '48 Convention Site Tomorrow

LOS ANGELES, May 13.—Miami, Cleveland and Mexico City today made strong bids for next year's Variety Clubs International convention with delegations competing in offers of commodious accommodations, entertainment and cooperation. Selection of the convention city will be made Friday.

Meanwhile national chief barker Bob O'Donnell praised Charles P. Skouras, chief barker of the host Tent 25, and his executive staff for the elaborate and efficient programming and handling of the present convention.

Darryl F. Zanuck, host to national officers and canvasmen at luncheon at the 20th Century-Fox studio, praised the work of Variety Clubs and urged that steps be taken to make the public at large cognizant of the tremendously beneficial part the organization plays in community life.

At the afternoon business session O'Donnell disclosed that Irving Berlin had donated to Variety all royalties from his song "No Business Like Show Business" from "Annie Get Your Gun" and that Variety will adopt it as its official song.

On a CBS broadcast this afternoon J. J. Fitzgibbons declared Variety will spend $2,000,000 in charitable undertakings this year.

Earlier, at the first business session, Variety's national officers and canvasmen reelected William McGraw as national executive director.

MGM Managers Meet In Cincinnati, Denver

Field auditors, master bookers and home office executives will attend M-G-M managers' sales meetings to be held in Cincinnati and Denver, on May 21-23 and May 26-28, respectively, with Charles K. Stern, Loew's assistant treasurer, and Alan F. Cummings, in charge of branch operations, jointly presiding.

The home office group will leave New York for Cincinnati next Monday and will start its homeward trek 10 days later.

C. E. Roberts Quits Columbia in Mexico

Charles E. Roberts, Columbia's head of operations in Mexico, has resigned and will, in all probability, be connected with the production and distribution of Mexican pictures, Columbia's home office disclosed here yesterday.

Roberts was with Columbia in the foreign field for 17 years. Previous to his connection with Columbia, he was Pathe's Central European representative, and then Paris branch manager for Producers International Corp. and Pathe.

Rosenberg Resigns as Col. Publicity Chief

HOLLYWOOD, May 14. — Frank Rosenberg last night disclosed his resignation as Columbia's studio publicity director, a post held since Jan., 1946. Lou Smith, advertising and publicity director of Liberty Films since that organization's inception, will succeed Rosenberg if a contract under negotiation is finalized.

Newsreels to Cover Variety Award Fete

HOLLYWOOD, May 14.—The five newsreels will cover the Humanitarian Awards dinner of Variety Clubs International at the Warner Studio on Saturday night, when Jack L. Warner will be host to more than 1,200 guests.

Among the special material written for the show is an act called "The Stand In," with Ann Sheridan, Alexis Smith and other stars. LeRoy Prinz and James V. Kern are putting on the show, and Jack Carson will be master-of-ceremonies.

Radio station KFWB arranged to interview delegates during program breaks between 11 A.M. and 2:30 P.M.

PRC president Harry Thomas will be a joint sponsor of a fashion show scheduled for the delegates' wives Friday afternoon.

Tomorrow night, national chief barker Bob O'Donnell will broadcast a special program over ABC.

Last night, Henry Ginsberg, Paramount production vice-president, was host to 150 guests, including Variety Club officers and home office executives at a dinner, followed by a private screening of "Variety Girl," based on the origin of Variety Clubs.

Bateman Elected to Screen Guild Board

HOLLYWOOD, May 14.—Screen Guild Productions re-elected eight members of its board of directors and elected one new one at today's session of its first anniversary convention. Immediately following, the new board re-elected four officers and elected three new ones.

The new director elected is Francis A. Bateman, general sales manager. New officers are I. E. Prinzmetal, secretary; Madison Schwer, assistant secretary, and Bateman, assistant treasurer.

SGP president John J. Jones announced the appointment of Jack Cartwright as public relations director and Jack Leewood, formerly with Warners, to succeed Cartwright in the publicity-advertising directorship.

Salute for UK Films

Mutual Broadcasting's network program, "Double or Nothing," will salute British pictures for the first time when it features a special broadcast dedicated to J. Arthur Rank's "Odd Man Out," on Sunday, over 345 stations. The program will originate from the Mosque Theatre in Newark.

Wilcox, Neagle Sailing

LONDON, May 14.—Herbert Wilcox and Anna Neagle are slated to leave on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* Sunday to seek a star in Hollywood to play the part of Renate Muller, Nazi actress spy whose life will be the subject of Wilcox's next film. Miss Neagle will co-produce for Alexander Korda's British Lion.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Duel in the Sun" and "The Farmer's Daughter" were the standouts in the first-run lineup, which now includes 32 theatres. Ideal show-going weather prevailed. Estimated receipts for the week ended May 14:

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—BELMONT (1,600) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) Gross: $12,500. (Average at regular prices of 50c-50c-85c-$1.00: $7,100)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,500)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $18,200)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $18,100)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—EL REY (861) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) Gross: $8,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-50c-85c-$1.00: $6,800)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—FOX-BEVERLY (1,350) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) Gross: $6,500. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-85c-$1.00: $12,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $13,300)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—GOLDEN GATE (1,500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 4 days. Gross: $10,500.

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—GUILD (965) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 9th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average at regular prices of 50c-50c-85c-$1.00: $5,900)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $27,000. (Average: $19,800)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-50c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $7,200)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox) and JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $28,600)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $22,600)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,700)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $14,200)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,400)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,700)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) Gross: $46,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-85c-$1.00: $18,800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PALACE (1,237) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 16th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-85c-$1.00: $21,000)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO-Radio)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $30,000. (Average: $20,800)

NORTHWEST OUTPOST (Rep.) and THE FABULOUS SUZANNE (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $15,000 (Average: $26,600)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $9,600)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $6,100)

NORTHWEST OUTPOST (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $8,000. (Average $16,100)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $15,800)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $13,200)

DUEL IN THE HUN (SRO)—VILLAGE (1,500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) Gross: $8,000.

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—VOGUE (800) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 19th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-85c-$1.00: $10,000)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $22,000. (Average: $18,200)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $20,000. (Average: $15,500)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $19,000. (Average: $14,900)

Seven More Pictures Rated by the Legion

Three of seven additional pictures classified by the National Legion of Decency have been rated A-I; they are: "Girl on the Spot" and "Trail to Vengeance," both Universal-International, and "Law of the Canyon," Columbia. Placed in Class A-II were: "Honeymoon," RKO Radio; "Tiger Woman," Republic, and "Untamed Fury," Producers Releasing. PRC's "Lighthouse" was placed in Class B.

Warner Club Boat Ride

Annual boat ride of the Warner Club, social and welfare organization of Warner Brothers employes, will be held on June 12.

The ocean-going *S.S. John A. Meseck* has been obtained for the occasion, and the ride will be up the Hudson River to Bear Mountain.

Jones Leaves Paramount

HOLLYWOOD, May 14.—Producer Paul Jones and Paramount have amicably terminated their contract. He was with the studio 20 years, the last 12 as a producer.

BALTIMORE

With fair skies to attract amusement seekers elsewhere, most local first-run theatres can boast of only barely average grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 15:

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $14,000)

BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $14,000)

THE HOME STRETCH (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE SEA HAWK and THE SEA WOLF (WB reissues)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $16,500)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $19,750. (Average: $17,500)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-44c-56c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS (PRC reissue)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,500)

CARMEN (Superfilm)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-55c) 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000)

TEXAS (Col. reissue) and ARIZONA (Col. reissue)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)

Two RKO Outings

RKO will be host to more than 2,000 employes of RKO Radio Pictures, RKO Theatres, RKO-Pathe-News and the RKO New York Exchange on its 12th annual outing on Mondays May 19 and 26. The outings will be boat rides up the Hudson to Bear Mountain, with a dinner at Bear Mountain Inn.



about the big new Bouncing Ball song series
and the whole new streamlined line-up of

Paramount Shorts

FOR 1947-'48

Paramount

Increases the supply of its leading audience favorites...

Adds an important *new* color-cartoon series...

Strips down the number of series for the most concentrated values ever, in its...

64 New-Season Shorts

MORE CARTOONS—24 IN ALL —AND ALL IN TECHNICOLOR*

NEW Screen Song Cartoons (8)

Starring THE BOUNCING BALL

So popular were its two 1946 test releases that The Bouncing Ball has now been promoted to stardom in a series all its own. These join-in-the-fun-and-sing shorts are the greatest audience-participation subjects ever to hit the screen.



MORE Popeye Cartoons (8)

Yes, *8* instead of 6 because showmen can't get enough of the Strong Man of ticket-selling laughter.



MORE Noveltoons (8)

Maintaining the recently announced increase in number of releases from 6 to 8, because of their overwhelming public acceptance. The series that "discovered" The Bouncing Ball and introduced other novelties.

**All Produced by Famous Studios*

A REPEAT ORDER OF THESE THREE FAMOUS SERIES

6

Musical Parade Featurettes

IN TECHNICOLOR

Made like features, cast like features with real marquee star-names. Scored like features with real hit music.

Produced by Harry Gray



6

Paramount Pacemakers

A new series that has made good. So original that these were the first shorts ever picture-featured by "Life" Magazine.



10

GRANTLAND RICE Sportlights

Produced by Jack Eaton

The 27th year of America's unchallenged leader in its field. And its field is America's most popular topic—sports.



THE 3 JERRY FAIRBANKS SERIES CONTINUED BY POPULAR DEMAND

6

Speaking of Animals

Honored *twice* with Academy Awards, they have highlighted with fun and interest every show they've played.



6

Popular Science

IN MAGNACOLOR

Dramatizing the headlines of science in the terms of every-day living, these fine Shorts assure program diversity and high-level audience interest.



6

Unusual Occupations

IN MAGNACOLOR

Your patrons meet such interesting people, doing such fascinating things that this series has been audience-acclaimed for 10 years.

AND SING OUT
THE BIGGEST NEWS OF ALL...

Paramount News

THE EYES AND EARS OF THE WORLD

Newsreels are *not* all alike because today no other newsreel is like Paramount News. Unrivalled in coverage, unique in editing slants, it scoops all competitors time after time. Your patrons are missing something if you don't show Paramount News!

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AND HERE'S A BRAND NEW
PROGRAMMING IDEA...

The Paramount Shorts Package

A Paramount-pioneered innovation already popular with exhibitors as 2nd feature substitutes, program balancers or holiday, midnight, and kiddies' specials.



• • •

The Boxoffice Will Sing With

64 Shorts

42 In Color — In 9 Series
Plus Paramount News

from

Paramount

for 1947-'48

AFL Formula

(*Continued from page* 1)

presided, said the committee will proceed immediately to carry out the decisions reached there. "The time has come," he added, "for action which will effectively prevent jurisdictional strikes, and I feel that we have made a great deal of progress in that direction."

The present Hollywood strike, per se, did not come up for a discussion at the conference.

Boren 'Deeply Gratified' at AFL Move to Erase Disputes

HOLLYWOOD, May 14.—The major producers' labor relations director, Charles Boren, said the studios are "deeply gratified" by the news from Washington concerning the AFL plan to eliminate future jurisdictional strikes in Hollywood, and expressed the hope that the action "may lead to harmony among the 43 unions representing those employed in the studios."

Warner, Fabian Meet With Albany Union

ALBANY, N. Y., May 14.—First conference between Fabian and Warner officials and a delegation from a new union of doormen, cashiers, matrons, cleaners and ushers was held at the Warner offices here.

S. J. Ullman, upstate general manager of Fabian, and A. S. Smakwitz, assistant zone manager of Warners, conferred with Edward Foley, union president, Kevin Kelsey, head of the operators' union, and Edward Wendt, business agent of the operators. The operators helped to organize the new group.

Another meeting to discuss increased wages and improved working conditions will be held following the return of C. J. Latta, Warner zone manager, from the Coast Variety Club convention.

Film Unit Approves 70 Newsmen Here

At a meeting of the International Film Relations Committee at the Motion Picture Association here, agreement was reached on accrediting 70 overseas correspondents working in the New York area.

Fortunat Baronat presided at the meeting. Present were: Clarence J. Schneider, Columbia; David Blum, M-G-M; Paul Ackerman and Mary Butler, Paramount; Don Prince, RKO Radio; Leslie F. Whelan, 20th Century-Fox; Samuel Cohen, United Artists; James Solon, Universal; Gerald R. Keyser, Warner Brothers; Mel Strauss, Vanguard; Alfred Corwin, Motion Picture Export Association; Walton B. Thomas, MPA.

Howard Off to Denver

William W. Howard, assistant general manager of RKO Theatres, will leave here today for Denver where he will install Jay Golden, new division manager for RKO's West Coast theatres. On his return, Howard will stop at Chicago to look over RKO theatres in that city.

REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
1600 BROADWAY, N. Y. 19 Circle 6-6686
Complete Film and Disc Recording Facilities

SAG, AMPP, SIMPP Extend Wage Pacts

Hollywood, May 14. — The Screen Actors Guild in agreement with the Association of Motion Picture Producers and the Society of Independent Motion Pictures Producers has announced the extension of their contract, which expires tomorrow morning, for a 30-day period, with the understanding that minimum wage scales ultimately adopted will be retroactive to tomorrow. Negotiations with the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association for a similar extension are in progress.

PCC to Re-allocate Rejected $278,467

HOLLYWOOD, May 14.—The Permanent Charities Committee today voted to hold in its possession the $278,467 rejected by the Red Cross and Infantile Paralysis Fund pending a decision concerning its allocation before the start of the next united appeal campaign.

Deciding also that allocations cannot be made fairly to some 150 requests from a wide variety of charity organizations for participation in the fund, the group appointed a committee to study the possibility of adding appropriate charities to those already receiving allocations.

M. C. Levee was elected chairman for the coming year, succeeding Joan Crawford. Reelected were Edward Arnold as executive vice-chairman, and Regis Toomey, secretary.

To Debate Censorship In Conn. Radio Talk

HARTFORD, May 14.—Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, will represent the industry tomorrow night in a forum discussion over station WTHT on whether Connecticut should have film censorship.

The Child Welfare Commission has demanded censorship, basing its request on the showing of "Duel in the Sun." Complaints sent by the commission to Federal and state officials have attacked what the commission calls "dirty pictures."

Meanwhile, the Juvenile Commission of Hartford has described "Duel in the Sun" as a challenge to "standards of decent conduct," and has called upon the Connecticut General Assembly to "take proper action" to prevent "such an affront to moral standards."

'Duel' in a 'Moveover' To 11 Loew Theatres

David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" will "move over" to a number of Loew New York houses which did not participate in the original 38-theatre showing. The film has been booked for two, three and four day engagements at Loew's Broadway, 42nd Street, 116th Street, Rio, Burland, Burnside, Hillside, Brevoort, 86th Street, Palace and Spooner theatres.

It was held over for a second week in Loew's Metropolitan in Brooklyn, Loew's Jersey City, Loew's Newark, and Loew's Victoria. The same price policy will prevail, 90 cents during afternoons and $1.25 at night.

Reade Says 'Forced' To File Trust Suit

"Pressure" brought to bear by the Plainfield, N. J., Chamber of Commerce and other local groups and the inability to remedy alleged clearance inequities prompted the $3,900,000 anti-trust suit by Walter Reade Theatres against the eight distributors, Walter Reade, Jr., said here yesterday.

Reade's complaint states that the Newark clearance system also results in unreasonably favorable clearance for affiliated theatres in New Brunswick, Elizabeth and Cranford.

Wirthwein Is Captain Of Paramount Drive

Harold Wirthwein, Paramount's assistant West Coast district manager, has been named captain of the company's 1947 "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership" drive, by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution. Wirthwein will begin a tour of the company's branches on June 16, preliminary to the start of the 13-week drive, which is set for August 31.

The tour will follow the termination of the present series of branch meetings being conducted in the field by division sales managers. These meetings are scheduled to end June 10. Wirthwein, who has headquarters in Los Angeles, was Milwaukee branch manager before his promotion to his present post.

International Radio Group Meets Today

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., May 14.—Delegates to the World Telecommunications Conference from 69 countries began to arrive this week. Headquarters are in the Ambassador Hotel.

The first of three meetings to be held here during the next several months will start tomorrow. This will be devoted to radio, with 1,000 persons attending. The conference, like its predecessors in Madrid, Cairo and Moscow, has the power to change international communications laws, the frequency allocations table and rules promulgated at previous conclaves.

Rank Talks End

(*Continued from page* 1)

Benjamin, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization here; Maurice Bergman, Eastern advertising-publicity director for Universal, and Joseph Seidelman, president of Universal's international subsidiary.

Rank then met J. Earl Larson, head of the Rank offices in Canada. Lunch with I. W. and M. A. Schlesinger, South African theatre owners, followed at the Chatham Hotel.

Last night, he was a dinner guest of J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of Universal's board, and accompanied Cowdin to a performance of "Brigadoon."

Sioux Falls Leads

RKO Radio's exchange in Sioux Falls continues to lead in the 1947 "Ned Depinet Drive," at the end of the 19th week. Sherm W. Fitch is manager, under H. H. Greenblatt, head of the Midwestern district.

Depinet Host at RKO

(*Continued from page* 1)

S. Gavin head the committee on arrangements.

A partial list of those who will attend include:

Neil Agnew, Gradwell Sears, Sam Dembow, Jr., J. R. Vogel, John Hertz, Jr., Edward A. Golden, Jack Cohn, J. Henry Walters, Gordon E. Youngman, Malcolm Kingsberg, A. W. Schwalberg, William J. Heineman, Harry Brandt, Max A. Cohen, Garret Van Wagner, Robert Mochrie, Gus Eyssell, Ralph Austrian, Harry Michalson, Walter Branson, Harry Gittleson, Charles Boasberg, William German, Edward L. Hyman, Irving Lesser, Major L. E. Thompson, Frederick L. Ehrman, Sam Rinzler, Paul Hollister, P. N. Furber, Sol E. Schwartz, S. Barret McCormick, Sidney Meyer, Frank L. McNamee, Ted Schlanger, Charles McDonald, Fred Schwartz, Jack Shea, M. A. Silver, William White, John Murphy, John J. Payette, Martin Quigley, Jr., I. Rappaport, John Benas, Clayton E. Bond, Len S. Gruenberg, Sam Goodman.

Also: E. C. Grainger, I. J. Hoffman, Lou Golding, Harry Katz, Frederick Ullman, Jr., Walton C. Ament, Harry Kalmine, Harry Mandel, Max Fellerman, William C. Gehring, Harry Gold, E. T. Gomersall, Rube Jackter, Ben Kalmenson, William Zimmerman, William J. Kupper, Jules Lapidus, David Levy, Fred Meyers, E. K. O'Shea, Joseph Walsh, Walter Reade, Walter Reade, Jr., Arthur Sachson, Abe Schneider, A. W. Smith, Louis Weinberg, Barney Pitkin.

Also: Norman Ayers, Arthur Willi, Edward Aaron, Jack Bowen, Jack Byrne, Ralph Clark, Nat Cohen, Clarence Eiseman, Jack Ellis, Nat Furst, Max Gillis, Morey Goldstein, Milton Maier, Roy Haines, Clarence Hill, Bert Kulick, Sam Lefkowitz, Lloyd Lind, Ray Moon, Norman Moray, Ed Morey, Hugh Owen, Ralph Pielow, Henry Randell, Moe Sanders, Jack Schlaifer, Edward Schnitzer, Irving Wormser, Bernard Kranze, M. Kornbluth, Alexander E. Reoch, and Mort Singer, Jr.

Unesco Urges

(*Continued from page* 1)

vention. If the plan matures, it may be possible to extend it and include freedom from quotas and other national restrictions on entry as well, Farr said.

Farr outlined other facets of UNESCO's film program. In August, he said, workers now surveying technical needs in war-damaged countries will make a report to a group of experts. The report will include estimates of how much film equipment and trained film personnel is needed by each Allied country as well as how a film program in each country could contribute to its overall rehabilitation. Efforts will then be made to have the technical needs of these countries fulfilled by countries that can afford to do so.

Emphasizing that UNESCO would not produce or distribute on its own, Farr said that its film work is directed at stimulating and making available to all needy nations lists of films that could be used by them in rehabilitation.

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PREVUE TRAILER SERVICE
COSTS ONLY
SCREEN THEM FREE
$4.50 per week
COVERS ALL FEATURES
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DAILY VARIETY DAILY

43 Hollywood (28), California,

Hooper Names Air Champs

HOPE, LUX, A&A, DA, CROSBY

Radio champs of the '46-'47 season, picked by C. E. Hooper on the basis of average ratings for a six-month period from Nov. 1 to April 20 were revealed yesterday with the issuance of "Hooperade of Stars," the rating firm's first entry in that field. Three leaders in each of 20 categories were given win, place and show positions, in the order of their finish in the rated averages. The winners and their Hooper averages follow:

Variety: Bob Hope 29.8; "The McGee's" 28.3; Jack Benny 27.6.

Dramatic: Lux Radio Theatre 23.7; Screen Guild Players 21.8; Dr. Christian 13.4.

Situation comedy: Amos 'n' Andy 23.7; Gildersleeve 17; Date With Judy 15.1.

WINCHELL ON TOP

News commentators: Walter Winchell 21.8; H. V. Kaltenborn 10; Drew Pearson 8.6.

Mystery: Mr. D. A. 20.4; Big Town 15.3; Inner Sanctum 15.2.

Male singer: Bing Crosby 17.2; Dick Haymes 12.3; Perry Como 10.9.

Audience participation: Truth or Consequences 16.3; Take It Or Leave It 16.1; Bob Hawk 14.3.

Comedy (female star): Joan Davis 15.1; Judy Canova 14.9; Fanny Brice 14.2.

Pop music: Hit Parade 13.2; Music Hall 13.1; Merry Go Round 12.7.

News Reporter: Lowell Thomas 12.6; Bill Henry 12.7; Ned Calmer 9.3.

Quiz shows: Can You Top This 12.1; It Pays to Be Ignorant 11.1; Information Please 8.8.

Femme singer: JO STAFFORD 12;

Kate Smith 10.9; Dinah Shore 9.7.

Concert Music: Album of Familiar Music 12; Waltz Time 10.4; Voice of Firestone 10.

Children's program: Lone Ranger 9.5; Let's Pretend 6.6; Tom Mix 4.9.

Daytime dramatics: Stars Over Hollywood 8.5; Grand Central Station 7.4; Theatre of Today 7.2.

Daytime serials: When a Girl Marries 8.1; Widder Brown 7.7; Ma Perkins 7.5.

STERN SPORTS LEADER

Sports: Bill Stern 7.7; Gillette boxing bouts 6.8; (no third).

Daytime participation: Breakfast in Hollywood (Kellogg) 7.1; Breakfast in Hollywood (Procter & Gamble) 6.6; County Fair 6.3.

Daytime pop music: King Cole Trio 4.6; Teentimers Club 4.3; Fred Waring 4.3.

Educational Forum: World Front 4.3; Exploring the Unknown 4.3; (no third).

Publicity and Public Relations MARGARET ETTINGER

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Exclusively CAPITOL RECORDS

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 96 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1947 TEN CENTS

James . . . in Today's News

MARIAN F. JORDAN, film distribution veteran of Paramount International for the past 19 years, has been appointed manager of the Motion Picture Export Association in Germany to supervise distribution activities, it was announced here yesterday by Irving Maas, MPEA vice-president and general manager.

Jordan, whose services were made available by arrangement with George Weltner, president of Paramount International, will proceed to Berlin in two weeks following conferences at MPEA's New York home office to make immediate preparations for implementing agreements reached in Berlin last month between Maas and AMG officials.

Adams Film Unit Head Here of Thompson Agency

Al Adams has been named head of the Eastern motion picture advertising division of the J. Walter Thompson Co. ad agency. Adams was with Warner Brothers and RKO Radio. He will take over his new duties on June 2.

W. C. Lewellen, head of the company's West Coast motion picture unit, with headquarters in Los Angeles, has been here for the past six weeks working with company executives coordinating the work of both units. He will return to Los Angeles at the end of this month.

Chalif Will Represent Pickford on UA's Board

Vitalis L. Chalif has been named one of Mary Pickford's representatives on United Artists' board. Chalif is a member of the law firm of Leon, Weill and Mahony of New York, Washington and Mexico City, and replaces Herman Weisman, resigned.

He was chief of the motion picture unit in the Office of the Alien Property Custodian in Washington.

Sol Lesser, Rossen Form New Production Company

HOLLYWOOD, May 15.—Sol Lesser today announced the formation of a new production company, his third, with Robert Rossen to be associated with him. Rossen will be writer-director of the new company, still unnamed.

Gilbert Is Nu-Screen Advertising Counselor

Norman S. Gilbert has been appointed advertising counselor of Nu-Screen Corp., by Herman Gluckman, president. The company manufactures Fiberglas Screen.

Big Backlog Backs Mono.

Monogram's temporary cessation of production at its Hollywood studios, slated to go into effect momentarily with completion of three pictures, will find the company with a substantial backlog of product and therefore will cause no interruption whatever in releasing operations, vice-president Edward Morey said here yesterday.

Although Monogram is not among the struck studios in the current Hollywood jurisdictional dispute, president Steve Broidy ordered the shutdown because the company wants to avoid "getting caught in the switches" when negotiations for new wage scales and conditions start shortly, Morey said. Since the major portion of Monogram's output are low-budget pictures, on which expenses must be closely calculated, it is deemed sound policy from a business point of view to avoid production operations which would be subject to unanticipated increased costs after a picture starts.

Morey said the company's backlog

(*Continued on page 6*)

SGP Sets 42 for 1947-48 Release

HOLLYWOOD, May 15.—Screen Guild Productions will release 30 new features and at least 12 reissues during 1947-48, John J. Jones, president, told the 50 franchise holders and company executives at SGP's first anniversary convention, held at the Hotel Roosevelt, here, today.

Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will be the principal speaker at a convention dinner to be held tomorrow night for the delegates.

90 Killed, Injured In Rome Film Fire

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

Rome, May 15.—A terrific explosion followed by a flash-fire completely destroyed the five-story headquarters of Minerva Film Co., here, killing or seriously injuring practically the entire staff of 90. It was the worst disaster in Rome since 1938—except for war-time bombing, causing damages exceeding half-a-billion lire.

Minerva produced "Open City."

New York offices of London Films disclosed here yesterday that John C. Jackson, associated with London and a director for London and for British Lion, was killed in the Minerva fire in Rome.

Columbia 1st Again In High Court Move

Columbia, represented by attorney Louis Frohlich, first to appeal the New York anti-trust decision, has again gone ahead of its seven co-defendants by filing new papers in the U. S. Supreme Court.

The company has filed its "points relied on," a document in which it continues substantially its allegations of "substantial questions" involved in the New York decision. This is a move prescribed by law allowing appellants "upon reflection" to lay stress upon those errors charged in a lower court's ruling. These "errors" were first pointed up in the original appeal papers.

Columbia's appeal is based mainly upon alleged legality of block booking and allegedly illegality of bidding.

"The Ghost and Mrs. Muir"

[*20th Century-Fox*—Sophisticated Fantasy]

AN UNUSUAL tale of drama and fantasy has been conceived, and a film of striking excellence results. Certainly it marks another forward step in the creative advance of motion picture making. Produced with taste and imagination by Fred Kohlmar, it has an abundance of talent, headed by Gene Tierney, Rex Harrison and George Sanders.

Set in London at the turn of the century, the screenplay, fashioned by Philip Dunne, introduces Miss Tierney as Lucy Muir, a young widow who decides to leave the stuffy comfort of her in-law's home and lead her own life. With daughter, housekeeper and dog, she departs for the Cornish coast to rent a house overlooking the sea.

As the story develops, Miss Tierney discovers that the house is

(*Continued on page 6*)

Sharp Decline In Exhibitor Run Demands

Only Few Accept Offers Of Eight Distributors

Although each of the eight distributor parties to the Government's New York anti-trust suit has individually expressed determination to consider reasonable-run demands by exhibitors, and in some cases a willingness to conduct some competitive bidding, the volume of theatremen's requests to obtain better runs has fallen off to a sporadic few.

Distributor spokesmen familiar with operations under the New York decision attribute the sharp decline not only to the U. S. Supreme Court stay of operations of distributor provisions of the decree, but they firmly believe that exhibitors most eager to procure new runs and who are capable of offering adequate terms, already have expressed themselves to the companies.

For the most part, they were heard from within the first two months after the promulgation of the decree by the New York court, it is said. Within that period each of the distributors averaged about 250 inquiries about the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Para. Sets $500,000 For MPF: Balaban

LOS ANGELES, May 15.—Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, today told Variety Club officers, assembled at the Ambassador Hotel here for their international convention, that his company has placed $500,000 in escrow as a donation to the Motion Picture Foundation when it is established.

Doughboy Marko Wolf will give a financial report of Variety's status at tomorrow's session.

Miami was chosen as next year's International convention city, winning

(*Continued on page 6*)

$4,500,000 Trust Suit Filed on Coast

LOS ANGELES, May 15.—Suit asking $4,500,000 triple damages from several distributors charged with violating the anti-trust laws was filed in Federal Court here this morning by Simon M.

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

JOSEPH I. BREEN, production code administrator, is recovering satisfactory from an operation at Hollywood Hospital.

•

ARTHUR C. BROMBERG, Monogram Southern Exchanges president, has returned to Atlanta from New Orleans where he entertained C. W. TRAMPE, Monogram franchise holder of Milwaukee.

•

TOM O'BRIEN, National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes general secretary, is due to sail from England Sunday on the *Queen Elizabeth,* for a visit here.

•

PATRICK HAMILTON, playwright, is due here over the weekend from London for conferences with ALFRED HITCHCOCK and SIDNEY BERNSTEIN, of Transatlantic Pictures.

•

M. LEBOVITZ, president of Grand Amusement Co., Chattanooga, and MRS. LEBOVITZ, are stopping at the Hotel Roosevelt here.

•

GEORGE MUCHNIC, Loew's International vice-president, flew to Europe yesterday for a two-month tour of M-G-M overseas offices.

•

WILLIAM WYLER, Liberty Pictures vice-president, has left Hollywood for New York and Europe to survey story material and talent.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern division sales manager, is due back today at the home office from Cleveland.

•

BARNEY BALABAN, Paramount president, is due to return to New York Monday from the Coast.

•

NAT LIEBESKIND will sail from New York today for a two-month trip to Buenos Aires.

•

NATHAN LEVINSON, Warner Studio sound activities chief, will return to the Coast from New York today.

Rank Meets Press Today in Chicago

After a week crowded with conferences, luncheons, dinners and interviews, J. Arthur Rank left New York yesterday for Chicago where he will hold a press interview today in the Blackstone Hotel. During his two-day stay there he will confer with J. H. McNabb of Bell and Howell, and A. N. Rauland, television engineer.

Rank, in behalf of *The London Daily Mail,* yesterday presented James Mason, British star, with that paper's award for being the best British actor of 1946. Mason and Margaret Lockwood won awards for their work in "Piccadilly Incident."

Rank's next stop will be Toronto.

80 Theatre Exhibits At SMPE Meeting

Some 80 exhibits of theatre equipment will highlight the 62nd semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picure Engineers, to be held Oct. 20-24 at the Hotel Pennsylvania, here. The exhibit will be tied in with a Theatre Engineering Conference which will also feature the convention.

General committee for the convention consists of James Frank, Jr., chairman; E. I. Sponable, Don E. Hyndman, Clyde Keith, W. C. Kunzmann, Harry Smith, Jr., and Boyce Nemec.

More Time for Para. Television Changes

WASHINGTON, May 15.—The Federal Communications Commission today extended for 90 days, from the original May 18 deadline, the time in which Paramount must divest itself of present television interests in five stations, all operated by affiliates, or withdraw the applications of affiliates for five new stations.

The FCC demands that no company have more than five commercial stations. Paramount already has that number, three through its affiliate, Du Mont Laboratories, and one each through subsidiaries Balaban and Katz and Television Productions.

Pending are applications for new Du Mont stations in Cleveland and Cincinnati. Other Paramount subsidiaries with applications on file are Interstate Circuit, Dallas; New England Theatres, Boston, and United Detroit Corp., Detroit.

Maryland Censors Netted $23,593 in '46

BALTIMORE, May 15.—The Maryland Board of Censors had a banner year in 1946 with a net profit of $23,593, derived from charges against film companies whose product comes up for review. The board, which turns the profit over to the state treasury, expects even bigger business for 1947, it was said.

Companies pay at the rate of $2 per thousand feet of 35mm. film and $4 for each thousand feet of 16mm.

'Copa' Party Tonight

United Artists will be host to the trade press at a party at the Copacabana Club, here, this evening, following a special preview of the new UA release, "Copacabana." Jack Eigen's "Meet Me at the Copa" broadcast over station WINS will toast the press and UA representatives during their visit to the club.

United Artists' "Copacabana," costarring Groucho Marx and Carmen Miranda, will open at the Criterion Theatre, here, on May 28.

Goldenson to Talk On MPF Before 600

Leonard Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., will address the annual banquet of the Motion Picture Associates, at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, here, this evening, on the activities of the Motion Picture Foundation. Over 600 industry representatives and guests are scheduled to attend the affair, at which New York circuit-owner Samuel Rinzler will be presented with the Motion Picture Associates' annual Beacon Award for "distinguished service to the industry." Si Fabian, last year's award winner, will make the presentation. MPA president Fred Schwartz will preside.

Invited to the dais are: Rinzler, Fabian, Goldenson, George Schaeffer, Sol Schwartz, Martin Quigley, Francis Harmon, Ted O'Shea, Gus Eyssell, William White, William Heineman, Alfred W. Schwalberg, Harry Brandt, Malcolm Kingsberg, Jay Emanuel, Harold Rinzler, Manual Frisch, City License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding, Jack Ellis, Ray Moon, Morris Sanders, Robert Weitman, George Skouras and Arthur Sachson.

RKO Sponsors 11th Golf Tournament

Winners of RKO Radio's 11th annual golf tournament, held at the Westchester Country Club yesterday and attended by over 400 industry figures, were as follows:

Kickers Handicap, RKO Employes: A. Winston; Gene Tunney, guest. South course winner: G. Ronan; runner-up, Hal Sloane. West course winner: Fred Ehrman; runner-up, Harry Pimstein.

Low gross prizes. South course winner and runner-up: J. Watson and S. Wheeler, respectively. West course winner and runner-up: Charles Yates, Jr., and Mel Farrington, respectively. Putting contest: Senator Conrad, winner. South course: S. F. Schmelzer. West course: H. Germaine.

Winner high-score: I. Klaw. Winner foursome: H. Quimby, S. Braverman, George Garvin, R. Pielow, H. Walker, J. G. Baker, L. Miller, E. McGuire, Ben Grimm, Ted Sullivan and S. Strausberg.

M. Schenck Staging Show for Benefit

A big stars-in-person show will be held for the benefit of the New York Infirmary Building Fund at Madison Square Garden on Tuesday evening. The entire show is being staged and produced by Marvin Schenck, chairman of the entertainment committee.

Tickets are on sale at all Loew, RKO, Skouras and Brandt theatres and at Madison Square Garden. Tickets will be delivered at home by calling a Loew theatre nearest you.

Optima Makes Deal

International Optima has arranged with Exclusive Films, Ltd., London, for foreign distribution of "Way Out West" and "Blockhead," Laurel and Hardy films.

'Verdoux', Aug. 15 Release

Aug. 15 has been set for the national release of Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux," distributed by United Artists, it was disclosed here yesterday by Arthur Kelly, Chaplin's representative. Kelly said that trailers and accessories for the picture have yet to be made.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Claudette COLBERT Fred MacMURRAY
"THE EGG AND I"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
Shirley Temple · Franchot Tone · Guy Madison
in Honeymoon

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN ANNE BAXTER WM. HOLDEN SONNY TUFTS 'BLAZE OF NOON'
IN PERSON CHARLES TRENET EXTRA! Dorothy DONEGAN Plus Others

The ENTERPRISE STUDIOS Present
BARBARA STANWYCK DAVID NIVEN
in ERICH MARIA REMARQUE'S
"THE OTHER LOVE"
with RICHARD CONTE
Released Thru United Artists
Doors Open 9:30 A.M. - Popular Prices
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCE
RIVOLI B'way at 49th St.

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

ALAN LADD CARL RUSSELL WILLIAM BENDIX in CALCUTTA
A Paramount Picture
in Person DUKE ELLINGTON And His Orchestra GOLDEN GATE QUARTETTE COKE & POKE BUCK & BUBBLES
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

Cornel WILDE · Maureen O'HARA
"The HOMESTRETCH"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE — HAZEL SCOTT · The BARRY'S
CARL RAVAZZA · HENNY YOUNGMAN
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Para. Conducts Four More Branch Meets

Meetings in Charlotte, Cleveland, Denver and Omaha will bring to a close the second week of preliminary branch conferences being held by Paramount in advance of the company's 1947 "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership" sales drive.

The Charlotte meeting, which will last through today was opened yesterday by Hugh Owen, Eastern-South-[illegible] division sales manager, who conducted a three-day meeting in Atlanta on Wednesday.

The Cleveland meeting will start today, with Earle W. Sweigert, Mid Eastern division sales manager, presiding. The session, which will close tomorrow, follows one in Detroit that terminated yesterday.

The meeting in Denver, which is in George A. Smith's Western division, began yesterday and will end today, following a session held Wednesday in Salt Lake City. The Omaha branch, also under Smith's jurisdiction, will hold its meeting tomorrow.

SAG, IMPPA Agree To Pact Extension

HOLLYWOOD, May 15.—The Screen Actors Guild, which yesterday reached an agreement with the Association of Motion Picture Producers and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers for a 30-day extension of its contract which expires today, has announced a similar agreement with the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association. Marking the first differentiation between producer organizations which, until now, have conducted SAG negotiations in concert, the agreement specified two pictures, to be produced in the next 30 days, as excepted.

Producers Bid Set Designers to Talks

HOLLYWOOD, May 15.—In language identical with that used previously in inviting the striking carpenters' and painters' union to meet with them for the purpose of entering into collective bargaining, the major producers today invited Screen Set Designers Local No. 1421, which was the key unit in last year's strike, and is still out in the current one, to meet with the producers' labor committee next Thursday morning.

New Managers' Unit Studies CIO Offer

HOLLYWOOD, May 15.—Associated Theatre Operators and Managers, a new and independent union composed of managers and assistant managers, is considering an invitation to affiliate with the CIO's United Office and Professional Workers. Spokesmen for former said they would wait 10 days for action from employers on demands or from the AFL before making a decision.

MPA Office for India

HOLLYWOOD, May 15.—The Motion Picture Association today announced plans for the opening of an office in India, with Frederick Spencer, former production executive and recently in charge of photographing the atomic bomb tests, in charge.

British Take Another 200-Million on Loan

Washington, May 15. — Another two hundred million dollars of the three billion seven hundred and fifty million U. S.-British loan has been withdrawn, Treasury figures disclosed today.

Total withdrawals to date amount to one billion seven hundred and fifty million dollars, and Secretary of the Treasury Snyder admitted that the withdrawals have been "quite a bit larger" than anticipated. Original plans called for the British to use only about one billion five hundred million dollars in the first year, which does not end until June 30.

MGM Schedule Set Through August

Six pictures have been set for release from June through August, at the rate of two a month, by M-G-M offices here.

In addition, there will be three new pictures and one "Masterpiece" reprint for May, these including "High Barbaree," "Undercover Maisie," "The Yearling," and "The Great Waltz," the latter being the reprint.

June releases will include "Living in a Big Way" and "Dark Delusion"; July, "Fiesta," in Technicolor, and "Cynthia"; August, "The Hucksters" and "The Romance of Rosy Ridge."

While no release dates have been set, tradeshowings have been scheduled for "Song of Love," on June 17; "Song of the Thin Man," July 17; "Tenth Avenue Angel," July 28; and "The Unfinished Dance," August 5.

Cheyfitz to Coast on MPA 'Editorials'

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Edward I. Cheyfitz, assistant to Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, left here today for Hollywood to continue work on the first of the series of "screen editorials" planned by the association. Cheyfitz is expected to remain on the Coast about three weeks.

The first editorial, dealing with the nation's production, is being produced by M-G-M.

Lorentz Resigns

WASHINGTON, May 15. — Pare Lorentz has resigned as chief of CAD's film and theatre section, effective May 31, the War department announced today in praising his "outstanding service during our most critical period."

'Duel' Cuts Ordered

BALTIMORE, May 15.—The Maryland State Board of Censors has ordered eight cuts from "Duel in the Sun," which is scheduled to open at the Century Theatre here on May 22.

'Kaleidoscope' to Koster

HOLLYWOOD, May 15. — Producer Henry Koster has acquired Justin Callahan's "Kaleidoscope," described as a story showing American life in all strata, for independent production.

Warner, Menjou at Coast 'Red' Inquiry

LOS ANGELES, May 15.—Jack L. Warner and Adolphe Menjou appeared before the House Un-American Activities subcommittee here today giving the names of scores of alleged Communists in Hollywood, J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of the unit, reported.

"Both of these men named names," Thomas declared. "Based on testimony taken so far, I have come to the belief that the industry itself can clean house if it has the will to do so."

Mellett Denies Actor's Claim That He 'Forced' Role in Film

WASHINGTON, May 15. — Lowell Mellett, reportedly named as the Government aide who allegedly forced Robert Taylor to appear in a pro-Russian picture, today labeled the screen actor's charges as "too damn silly to deny." The allegation was made yesterday on the Coast before the sub-committee of the House Un-American Activities group, Chairman Thomas said.

Mellett added that he "certainly didn't compel Taylor or anyone else to do anything." He also offered to tell the committee anything they want to know upon their return here.

Neilson AMPA Farewell

Rutgers Neilson, RKO Radio home office publicity manager, retiring president of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, will make a farewell address to the AMPA membership at a closed luncheon-meeting on Tuesday at the Town Hall Club, here.

20th's '34th Street' Drive Starts Monday

Following conferences in Washington, Cleveland and Chicago conducted by Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity director, the company will launch a national advertising and exploitation campaign for "Miracle on 34th Street" on Monday. At the same time, exploiteers Rodney Bush, Sidney Blumenstock and Stirling Silliphant will leave New York on a national tour in behalf of the promotion.

They will arrange previews of the picture in various branches next week and will formulate plans for local tie-ups with retailers and members of the National Retailers Dry Goods Association, who are cooperating in the promotion of the picture in 7,500 stores throughout the nation.

Bush will visit Boston, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Washington and Atlanta; Blumenstock will cover Detroit, Chicago, Minneapolis and Milwaukee; Silliphant will visit Cleveland, Cincinnati, Kansas City and St. Louis.

Albany Houses 'Safe'

ALBANY, N. Y., May 15.—Building commissioner Philip Gallagher has pronounced Albany theatres in "good shape," structurally, following an annual checkup. Gallagher reports that "Generally, theatres are complying with safety fire requirements," and that minor violations which were uncovered, will be corrected. The annual checkup precedes theatre license renewals.

MUSIC SCORE COMPLETED

J. ARTHUR RANK'S

"WHISPERING CITY"

With

PAUL LUKAS — HELMUT DANTINE — MARY ANDERSON

"THE ROOSEVELT STORY"

Feature Documentary on FDR's Life

March of Time—Universal Shorts—Columbia Shorts

JACK SHAINDLIN

Leading Musical Director

SERVING THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

in the East

FOX MOVIETONE STUDIOS, NEW YORK CITY

TRADE-SHOW AUDIENCES SAY:

"'GOING-MY-WAY' DA

"Will match 'Going My Way' and then some."
— DAVE DAVIS, ATLAS THEATRES, DENVER

"Should outgross 'Going My Way'."
— EDWARD REED, STRAND, PROVIDENCE

"Much better than 'Going My Way'."
— BASIL CIRCUIT, BUFFALO

"Should do better than 'Going My Way'."
— WM. HISSNER, ACADEMY THEATRE, LEBANON, PA.

"Will do as well if not better than 'Going My Way'."
— MARVIN ARENT, SCHINE CIRCUIT

"Equal to or better than 'Going My Way'."
— JOHN HAROLD, CHARLIE KARR, MARTIN THEATRES, ATLANTA

"Fitting running mate to the great 'Going My Way'."
— ROBB & ROWLEY CIRCUIT

"On a par with 'Going My Way'."
— MRS. PAULINE CORBETT, IDLE HOUR THEATRE, CINCINNATI

"It's far and away Crosby's best picture."
— LOIS CONE, TALGAR THEATRES, ATLANTA

"Definitely in 'Going My Way' groove."
— STERLING BEMIS, DES MOINES REGISTER-TRIBUNE

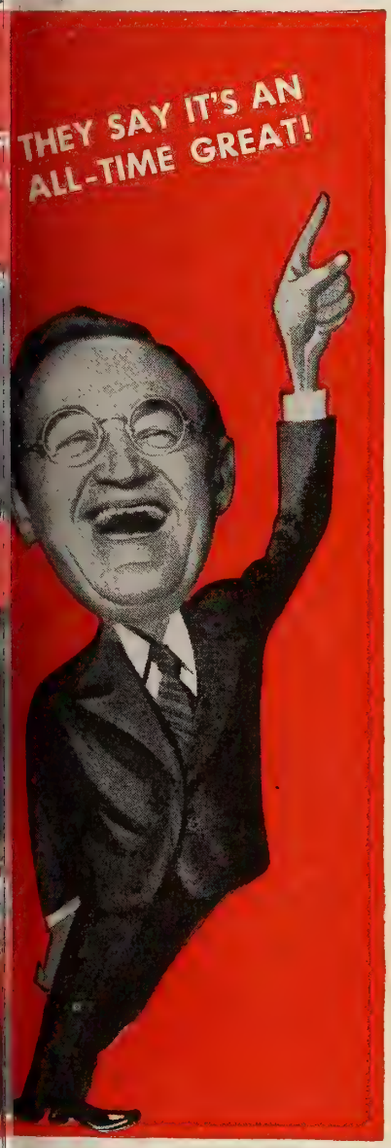


BING AND BARRY ARE BAC

with
Wanda Hendrix · Frank Faylen · Elizabeth Patterson
Robert Shayne · Larry Young · Percy Kilbride
Directed by ELLIOTT NUGENT
Screen Play by Arthur Sheekman · Adaptation by Arthur Sheekman
and N. Richard Nash · Story by Frank Butler · Produced by Sol C. Siegel

ARE HERE AGAIN!"

They Came By Thousands, Jamming Every Screening Room With The Biggest Trade-Show Turnout in Paramount History. And Here are Just a *Few* of the Sensational Comments on the First Crosby-Fitzgerald Comedy Since "Going My Way," by Hundreds of Theatre Operators, Film Buyers and Reviewers:



"Keep making pictures of this calibre and we'll never have to worry about business."
SAM EPSTEIN, EPSTEIN THEATRES, OMAHA

"Most entertaining picture I've ever seen."
FRED MOON, ATLANTA JOURNAL

"Most heart-warming film in years."
JEFFERSON AMUSEMENT CO., DALLAS

"One of the finest pictures I have ever seen."
MAX FRIEDMAN, WARNER CIRCUIT, ALBANY

"A marvelous box office picture."
BERNIE SHERMAN, DOUGLAS THEATRE, RACINE, WIS.

"'Welcome Stranger' is positively terrific."
AL AVED, AVED BOOKING SERVICE, MINNEAPOLIS

"It's this year's box office champion."
LARRY SHUBNELL, ALLIED THEATRES, DETROIT

"Public will love it and will buy it."
SAUL ULLMAN, FABIAN THEATRES, ALBANY

"This is the best in the last few years."
HERMAN FIELDS, CLARINDA THEATRE, CLARINDA, IA.

"Reunion of two top stars will be sure-fire boxoffice."
MARK WOLF, Y & W CIRCUIT, INDIANAPOLIS

AGAIN

In Paramount's

"Welcome Stranger"

starring

BING CROSBY · JOAN CAULFIELD · BARRY FITZGERALD

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

SAN FRANCISCO

"Duel in the Sun" and "The Egg and I" are demonstrating pronounced box-office strength. Other grosses are below average, but there are signs that business in general is picking up. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 16:

EGG AND I (U-I)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $14,000)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—FOX (4,651) (Advanced price: $1.25) 1st week. Gross: $60,000. (Average at regular prices: $32,000)
THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00) 1st week. With vaudeville. Gross: $26,500. (Average: $32,000)
BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 1st week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,000)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—UNITED NATIONS (1,129) (Advanced price: $1.25) 1st week. Gross: $15,000. (Average at regular prices: $6,000)
BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,008) (55c-85c) 1st week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $10,000)
FUN ON A WEEKEND (UA) and HAT BOX MYSTERY—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 1st week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $14,000)
THE SEA HAWK (WB reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB reissue)—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 1st week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $27,000)
LOVE AND LEARN (WB) and LOST HONEYMOON (Eagle-Lion) — PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 1st week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $23,000)
CALCUTTA (Para.)—ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (60c-85c) 4th week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $23,000)

DENVER

In spite of heavy rain over the weekend most first-run houses were holding up well. "My Brother Talks to Horses" with "Lighthouse" are doing well at the Broadway and are holding. Estimated receipts for the week ended May 14:

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA) and SO DARK THE NIGHT (Col.)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 1st week, after a week at the Denver and Webber. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,000)
MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M) and LIGHTHOUSE (PRC)—BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,000)
SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.) and DANGER STREET (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-74c) 3rd week for "Spring." Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,000)
JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.) and THE GHOST GOES WILD (Rep.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) Day and date with the Webber. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)
THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) and THE MAGNIFICENT ROGUE (Rep.)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,000)
TH FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,525) (35c-74c) 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,500)
THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) and THE MAGNIFICENT ROGUE (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c). Day and date with Esquire. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,000)
PURSUED (WB) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 1st week, after a week each at the Denver, Webber and Aladdin. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000)
HIT PARADE OF 1947 (Rep.) and SPOILERS OF THE NORTH (Rep.)—TABOR (1,967) (35c-74c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,000)
JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.) and THE GHOST GOES WILD (Rep.)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c). Day and date with the Denver. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $2,000)

CLEVELAND

"Smash Up," with a big weekend opening, is headed for a smash week at the Hippodrome. First spring weather, with a baseball game on Sunday, cut heavily into theatre attendance generally, however. Estimated receipts for the week ended May 13-14:

SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c) 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,000)
SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $22,000)
THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover from the State. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,000)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—LOWER MALL (563) (Advanced prices: $90c-$1.25-$1.50) 6th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,500)
STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000)
BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (60c-85c-95c). Stage: Louis Jordan and orchestra. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $30,000)
SMASH-UP (U-I)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c). Gross: $21,500. (Average: $18,400)
BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 6 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,600)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—UNIVERSITY (917) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25-$1.50) 6th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,500)

$500,000 for MPF

(*Continued from page* 1)

out over Mexico City and Cleveland in spirited campaigning.

Proceeds from the convention program, which are to be distributed Saturday, were reported as $136,000, of which $85,000 will go to the "Heart" committee for financing a premature birth clinic in connection with the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital in Los Angeles.

For the lavish entertainment program at the hotel tomorrow afternoon, it was announced that Bob Hope will headline the line-up.

Re-activation of the dormant Kansas City and Milwaukee Variety Tents, establishment of new ones in New Orleans and Havana, and mid-year meetings of national officers were projects decided upon by officers in business sessions held today.

Tomorrow's program will include a talk by Charles Reagan, Paramount distribution chief, on the company's plans for promoting "Variety Girl," which is based on the Variety Clubs.

Exhibitors Demands

(*Continued from page* 1)

manner of obtaining priority on product, or about demands for bidding and other considerations.

While the companies are not subject to contempt of court for not granting bidding—since this type of licensing pictures is now optional—they still must operate under the provisions of the decision until the Supreme Court reverses it, if it does. Consequently, all are refraining from arbitrarily refusing an exhibitor's request for a run.

"The Ghost and Mrs. Muir"

(*Continued from page* 1)

haunted by the ghost of its former owner, an acid-tongued sea captain. Playing the apparition, Rex Harrison materializes with impudent regularity before Miss Tierney's eyes in order to frighten her out of the house. However, as a model of virtue, she soon softens the vigorous old salt.

This solved, circumstances thrusts on the young widow another problem when her source of income ends suddenly. Harrison decides to go to her financial rescue by dictating his memoirs. Entitled "Blood and Swash," by Captain X, it soars to best-selling heights. It is at the publisher's office that Miss Tierney encounters George Sanders, an urbanely masculine rogue who writes children's books under the name of "Uncle Neddy." His polished ways soon charm Miss Tierney, causing the ghost to retreat from her life. Unfortunately for Miss Tierney, Sanders has a casual habit of charming many women—and he has a wife, too. Melancholy, Miss Tierney returns to an isolated life at the house. The years roll on. Her daughter grows to womanhood and marries. Finally death spreads its gentle curtain and Miss Tierney goes on to another world.

In and out of the film, as directed with feeling by Joseph L. Mankiewicz, there weave little threads of wry humor and subtle human insights. Performances are superb all around, others in the being Edna Best, as the often-puzzled housekeeper, and Natalie Wood and Venessa Brown as the daughter, child and grown-up, respectively.

While the production, because of its intrinsic merit, is not likely to present metropolitan exhibitors with any merchandising problem, the sophistication of the plot and its occasional inaction may not be to the total liking of some very small town audiences.

Running time, 104 minutes. Adult audience classification. For May release.

MANNY HERBSTMAN

Harris and Warner To Address Variety

HOLLYWOOD, May 15.—Six speakers will address the Humanitarian Award dinner of Variety Clubs International Saturday night at the Warner studio. In addition to John H. Harris of Pittsburgh, founder and "big boss" of the showmen's organization, who will announce the winner of the 1947 Humanitarian Award, the 1,200 guests will hear brief talks by Jack L. Warner, who will be host for the occasion; Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles; R. J. O'Donnell, international chief barker of Variety Clubs; Charles P. Skouras, chief barker of the Los Angeles Tent, and William McCraw of Dallas, international executive director.

Also to be cited at the dinner for outstanding welfare service will be one of the Variety Clubs located in 32 cities of the U. S., Canada and Mexico.

Mono. Backlog

(*Continued from page* 1)

of completed productions consists of "Black Gold," "High Conquest," "Tschaikovsky," "The Gangster," "Thunderbolt," "The Hunted," and several modestly-budgeted films, plus a number of Westerns.

Meanwhile, Morey reported, Monogram is continuing to pursue negotiations here for acquisition of a Broadway showcase. Several weeks ago, Broidy announced the company's intention to secure such a theatre.

Stagehands Lose Suit

ST. LOUIS, May 15.—The $109,750 suit filed against 16 IATSE officials by Henry Klaverkamp and Ralph Baur, stagehands, who claimed an overcharge of union dues, has been dismissed by Federal Judge Duncan with 20 days for the plaintiffs to file an amended complaint. A similar suit is pending in circuit court.

Warner Stars Will Appear in Denver

DENVER, May 15.—A schedule of personal appearances and other activities has been set for Warner stars Dennis Morgan and Janis Paige when they stop off here for a day, May 21, while enroute from the Coast to Cheyenne for the world premiere of their "Cheyenne."

The program during the stopover includes a reception by the Governor at the State House; personal appearances at Fitzsimmons Hospital, Colorado State Home for Orphan Children, and other institutions; luncheon at the Brown Palace Hotel with newspaper representatives and officials of *The Denver Post* Children's Hospital, and a radio interview by Jane Sterling over NBC network station KOA.

$4,500,000 Trust Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

Lazarus, South Pasadena and Monrovia, Cal., exhibitor.

The complaint asserts that Lazarus was prevented from obtaining films under "equitable" terms for his Rialto and Ritz theatres in South Pasadena, and the Lyric and Monrovia, in Monrovia, and was forced to enter a joint operating contract with the South Pasadena Theatres Corp. and Fox West Coast, in 1938, under which he was to receive a nominal salary and 49 per cent of the profits. Lazarus sets forth that $500,000 was "wrongfully" paid to the defendants, and his business was damaged to the extent of $1,000,000.

Named as defendants are: 20th Century-Fox, Fox West Coast, National Theatres, South Pasadena Theatres, United West Coast Theatres, and various Paramount, RKO, Warner, Columbia and Universal corporations.

Benham to Brenkert

CAMDEN, N. J., May 15. — H. J. Benham, formerly commercial engineer for RCA's theatre equipment section here, has been named assistant to Karl Brenkert, president of the Brenkert Light Projection Co., RCA Victor subsidiary in Detroit.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
April 19	(April Releases) GUILT OF JANET AMES Rosalind Russell Melvyn Douglas D—81 mins. (Rev. 3/5/47)	(April Releases) IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN Frank Sinatra Jimmy Durante C—103 mins. (718) (Rev. 3/3/47)	HIGH CONQUEST Anna Lee Warren Douglas D—83 mins. (Rev. 3/13/47)		THE BIG FIX James Brown D—63 min. (Rev. 5/2/47)	SPOILERS OF THE NORTH Paul Kelly Adrian Booth D—66 min. (Rev. 5/2/47)	(Block 4) TRAIL STREET Randolph Scott Robert Ryan O—84 mins. (Rev. 2/20/47)	(April Releases) THE LATE GEORGE APLEY Ronald Colman Peggy Cummins C—98 min. (Rev. 1/31/47)	(Jules Levey) NEW ORLEANS Arturo de Cordova Dorothy Patrick M—89 min. (Rev. 4/25/47)	(April Releases) BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME Abbott-Costello C—77 mins. (Rev. 3/10/47)	
April 26	FRAMED Glenn Ford Janis Carter Barry Sullivan D—82 mins. (Rev. 3/5/47)	LITTLE MR. JIM Butch Jenkins James Craig D—94 mins. (719) (Rev. 6/10/46)	LAND OF THE LAWLESS J. Mack Brown O—59 min. (671) (Rev. 5/12/47)	THE IMPERFECT LADY Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—97 mins. (Rev. 3/10/47)	FRONTIER FIGHTERS RAIDERS OF RED ROCK PANHANDLE TRAIL CODE OF THE PLAINS THUNDERCAP OUTLAWS SHOOTIN' IRONS		THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE Lawrence Tierney D—62 mins. (Rev. 2/27/47)	CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA Dick Haymes Vera-Ellen M—95 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)		YOU CAN'T CHEAT AN HONEST MAN (Reissue) W. C. Fields C—73 mins. (Rev. 2/20/39)	(Reissue) THE SEA HAWK Errol Flynn Claude Rains (Reissue) THE SEA WOLF Edw. G. Robinson Ida Lupino
May 3	FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson D—69 mins.	THE SEA OF GRASS Spencer Tracy Katharine Hepburn D—125 mins. (720) (Rev. 2/13/47)	(Reissue) QUEEN OF THE YUKON Charles Bickford	BLAZE OF NOON Anne Baxter William Holden D—90 mins. (Rev. 3/4/47)		OREGON TRAIL SCOUTS Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min. THAT'S MY GAL (Color) Lynne Roberts Donald Barry	(Block 5) HONEYMOON Shirley Temple Franchot Tone C—74 mins. (721) (Rev. 4/16/47)	(May Releases) THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR Rex Harrison Gene Tierney	(Enterprise) RAMROD Joel McCrea Veronica Lake O—94 mins. (Rev. 2/21/47)	I STOLE A MILLION (Reissue) George Raft Claire Trevor D—78 mins. (Rev. 7/18/39)	LOVE AND LEARN Jack Carson Robert Hutton C—85 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)
May 10	(May Releases) LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) D—77 mins. GUNFIGHTERS (Color)	(May Release) HIGH BARBAREE Van Johnson June Allyson D—91 min. (Rev. 3/13/47)	HARD BOILED MAHONEY Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall C—63 mins. (616) (Rev. 4/10/47)		(Eagle-Lion) RED STALLION Robert Paige Ted Donaldson BORDER FEUD Al La Rue O—55 min.	WINTER WONDERLAND Lynne Roberts Charles Drake D—71 min.	HOMESTRETCH Cornel Wilde Maureen O'Hara D—96 mins. (Rev. 4/18/47)		(Comet) ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (Color) Richard Martin D—65 mins. (Rev. 5/1/47)	(May Releases) TIME OUT OF MIND Phyllis Calvert Robert Hutton Ella Raines D—88 mins. (Rev. 3/7/47)	
May 17	BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY Ron Randell D—70 mins.	UNDERCOVER MAISIE Ann Southern Barry Nelson C—90 min. (Rev. 3/4/47)	SARGE GOES TO COLLEGE Alan Hale, Jr. D—63 min. (618) (Rev. 5/12/47)	BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—60 min. (Rev. 2/18/47)	(Eagle-Lion) REPEAT PERFORMANCE Joan Leslie Louis Hayward		TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS Johnny Weismuller O—72 mins. (723) (Rev. 3/20/47)		(Hunt Stromberg) DISHONORED LADY Hedy Lamarr (Rev. 4/23/47)	THE WEB Edward O'Brien Ella Raines William Bendix	
May 24	LAW OF THE CANYON Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette	(Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)	BACKFIRE Johnny Mack Brown		TOO MANY WINNERS Hugh Beaumont (Reissue) THE CORSICAN BROTHERS Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. (Reissue) INTERNATIONAL LADY George Brent		BORN TO KILL Lawrence Tierney D—92 mins. (722) (Rev. 4/21/47)	HOMESTRETCH Cornel Wilde Maureen O'Hara D—96 mins. (Rev. 4/18/47)	(Hopalong Cassidy) DANGEROUS VENTURE William Boyd O—59 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)	THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay	THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS Humphrey Bogart Barbara Stanwyck D—100 min. (Rev 4/1/47)
May 31	THE MILLERSON CASE Warner Baxter PRAIRIE RAIDERS Charles Starrett	THE YEARLING Gregory Peck Jane Wyman D—134 min. (717) (Rev. 11/27/46)	SONG OF THE WASTELAND Jimmy Wakely	CALCUTTA Alan Ladd Wm. Bendix D—83 min. (Rev. 4/16/47)	KILLER AT LARGE Robert Lowery O—63 min. (Rev. 4/30/47)		A LIKELY STORY Barbara Hale Bill Williams C—88 mins. (724) (Rev. 4/21/47)	JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG Richard Travis Micheline Cheirel D—64 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)	(Sam Coslow) COPACABANA Groucho Marx Carmen Miranda M—92 mins.	(Reissue) MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION Irene Dunne Robert Taylor D—101 min. (Reissue) 100 MEN AND A GIRL Deanna Durbin Leopold Stokowski D—84 min.	
June 1	THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. George Brent Joan Blondell D—87 min.				STEPCHILD Brenda Joyce D—70 min.	THAT'S MY MAN Don Ameche Catherine McLeod D—104 min. (Rev. 4/7/47)	BANJO Sharyn Moffett Una O'Connor D—67 mins. (725) (Rev. 4/21/47)	(June Release) MOSS ROSE Peggy Cummins Victor Mature			
June 8					PHILO VANCE RETURNS William Wright D—64 min. (Rev. 4/30/47)	SADDLE PALS Gene Autry WEBB OF DANGER Adele Mara	(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)	MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET Maureen O'Hara John Payne D—96 min. (Rev. 5/2/47)			CHEYENNE Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman O—100 min. (Rev. 4/23/47)
June 15	LITTLE MISS BROADWAY Jean Porter M—69 min.			DANGER STREET Jane Withers D—66 min. (Rev. 2/27/47)			THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726)				
June 22	SPORT OF KINGS Paul Campbell D—68 min. SWING THE WESTERN WAY Jack Leonard O			THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—80 min. (Rev. 4/28/47)	HEARTACHES Sheila Ryan PIONEER JUSTICE Al La Rue		DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730)				

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.]*

Reprinted in its entirety from

THE Film DAILY

A PICTURE TO SHOUT ABOUT! WILL BRING GOLDEN YULETIDE IN JUNE TO THE NATION'S BOXOFFICE!

"Miracle on 34th Street"

Here again we have something to shout about. And we feel we can shout loud and long. It rates. A few worth while numbers have come off the line so far this season. This one easily tops them all, stands considerably above, very much apart.

Christmas coming in June is a phenomena. June being the release date of "Miracle on 34th Street." Christmas will come in June and stay a long holiday while at the nation's box office. That it will be most welcome at the time of the doldrums, too, is not hard to imagine.

Many strange things happen herein. Macy's tells Gimbel's. Macy's tells its customers that other stores carry the goods they are looking for and even supplies names and addresses. And not only does this prove a sound method of ingratiating customers, it makes everybody concerned very happy.

Stranger still is the fact that via magnificent common sense and the utilization of splendid wit the existence of Santa Claus is proven by the United States Mail, an official agency of the United States Government; and all this is brought out in a Supreme Court hearing on Christmas eve in which the district attorney seeks to obtain a certificate of commitment to a mental institution for a white-bearded old man who calls himself Kris Kringle.

What is written above merely touches on a few of the highlights. This is a beautifully accomplished task of story-telling that is sparklingly new, crisp, intelligent, loaded with warmth, humanity and skillfully delineated performances that maintain levels of conviction in almost every case.

The story was written for the screen and directed by George Seaton. It has much plot intermixture to keep it diverting to a degree of constancy that is another new thing in screen treatments. The audience will sit fascinated, rock with laughter, roar with delight . . . and maybe even shed a tear.

In brief outline the story tells that Edmund Gwenn as "Kris Kringle" earnestly believes himself to be Santa Claus. He gets into the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, later takes a job as Santa at the store. He startles—at first—the management by suggesting other shops to harried mothers trying to please their youngsters. However, the good people appreciate his suggestions and thank the management. That they later become lifelong customers is very evident. The Yuletide atmosphere pervades and Gwenn has himself a time making friends with Natalie Wood, who is about seven, her mother, Miss O'Hara, head of the toy department at the store, and John Payne, he lives next door to the Misses O'Hara and Wood. Gwenn has everything flowing smoothly until shortly before Christmas when he tangles with the store's psychiatric adviser, bops him one with a cane. He is taken to Bellevue. Payne, a lawyer, brings the case into Gene Lockhart's court and there ensures a legal battle touched with shrewd irony that is some of the best comedy in recent times.

The locale is all New York, including characters and their local argot, New Yorkese. Much, if not all, was shot about the town, in Macy's, around City Hall.

The NEW Boxoffice Miracle from 20th Century-Fox

"MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET"

WORLD PREMIERE · ROXY THEATRE · JUNE 4th

DO NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 97 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, MAY 19, 1947 TEN CENTS

7 Millions for 37 New Rank Canada Runs

19 Theatres Are Already Under Construction

By SHERWIN KANE

CHICAGO, May 18.—A $7,000,000 theatre-construction program for Canada by J. Arthur Rank interests was disclosed by the British industry leader at a press conference at the Blackstone Hotel here at the weekend.

Rank estimated that the construction program could be completed within the next three-and-one-half years. He said that the first phase of it, involving 19 completely modern theatres, is under way now and that the second phase, embracing 18 additional theatres, and which was delayed by materials shortages, will get under way soon.

Rank said the major purpose of his Chicago visit is to examine the large-screen television apparatus developed here by the E. N. Rauland Corp. Rauland, who was present at the interview, predicted some time ago that practical theatre television would be available this year.

Rank said that on his return to New York from the West Coast in six weeks he will inspect large-screen tele-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Vogel in the Lead For Top UA Post

Joseph R. Vogel, vice-president of Loew's and general manager of its theatre division, has been offered the presidency of United Artists, it is learned authoritatively. He has the proposal under consideration.



Joseph R. Vogel

The arrangement would cover a period of years and include a stock interest. Charles Chaplin and Mary Pickford each now own one-third. The remainder of the stock once held by David O. Selznick was returned to the treasury when the latter withdrew amicably from the company. Vogel currently is under long-term contract at Loew's.

'Health Week' Is Abandoned

Abandonment of a proposed "National Health Week" in which all theatres of the country would participate is evident in results to date of a canvass of American Theatres Association directors, a representative number of them having rejected the idea, in addition to the reported attitude of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America favoring collections on a localized basis only.

It is understood that the proposal was not put to Allied States, it being withheld pending the outcome of overtures to both the ATA directorate and the MPTOA.

Upon the official rejection of the plan, its proponents, the New York Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, will consider aiding a federation of charities in this area by collections. Said to be a likely beneficiary of the New York drive, if adopted, is the Greater New York Fund, which is a Community Chest for 423 hospitals, health and welfare agencies.

Goldenson Sees MPF Trustee Honor Post

"Within five years one of the most honored positions in the industry will be membership on the board of trustees of the Motion Picture Foundation," Leonard H. Goldenson, chairman of the Foundation's organizing committee, prophesied in an address before 600 industry representatives at the annual banquet of the Motion Picture Associates, held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, here, on Friday. The affair signified a joint tribute to Samuel Rinzler for his "distinguished service to the industry," and to the Foundation.

Rinzler, Brooklyn circuit-owner, received the Associates' annual Beacon

(*Continued on page 6*)

Berger Seen Heading MPF in Northwest

MINNEAPOLIS, May 18.—Benjamin Berger, president of North Central Allied, was indicated here over the weekend as a likely choice for the first chairmanship of the Motion Picture Foundation for this area. The MPF here will be formally launched at a luncheon-meeting at the Hotel Nicollet tomorrow.

A regional committee of from six to 18, to serve one or two years, will be named by the delegation of 200 expected, following an outline of the MPF by John Balaban, Chicago circuit executive.

Liberty Films Is Purchased By Paramount

The long-pending deal for purchase of Liberty Films, Inc., by Paramount is now fact. Barney Balaban announced over the weekend that all outstanding stock in Liberty had been acquired by his company. "In making this deal, there was an exchange of Paramount stock for Liberty Films stock," he declared.

Furthermore, George Stevens, partner in Liberty with Frank Capra, William Wyler and Samuel J. Briskin, will go along, thereby indicating his determination to continue on his own as an independent producer, probably in association with Leo McCarey in Rainbow Prod., has been foresworn.

E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, sales repre-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Court Turns Down Van Nomikos Case

CHICAGO, May 18.—Federal Judge Walter La Buy on Friday dismissed suits brought by five distributors which charged the Van Nomikos circuit here with having erroneously reported box-office receipts for percentage engagements. The court held the case did not involve Federal jurisdiction.

Seymour Simon of Schradzke and Gould, counsel for Van Nomikos, told the court that the defendant had voluntarily permitted the distributors to inspect his books and, as a result, the distributors conceded they had no claim which could be enforced in Federal Court.

The theatres involved are the Ace, Lincoln, Parkway, Rex, City and Empress in Chicago and the Yale, Maywood, Ill. Plaintiffs were Loew's, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists and Warners.

Goldwyn and RKO In Pact Renewal

HOLLYWOOD, May 18.—Renewal of RKO Radio's distribution agreement with Samuel Goldwyn for a year beginning July 1 has been announced by N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president. Covering the eighth consecutive year, the new pact puts "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" as the first scheduled for delivery by the producer.

Profit Plan for Paramount Key Personnel

Officers, Others Would Join in Investment Co.

Organization of Employees' Investment Co., with authorized capitalization of $4,000,000, in which key personnel would participate, by stock purchase, in what amounts to a unique profit-sharing arrangement, is proposed by Paramount in its notice to stockholders in advance of the company's annual meeting at the home office on June 17.

Capital of the new company, which would be owned only by executives designated by a special Paramount board committee, would be invested exclusively in Paramount stock.

In a separate letter to stockholders, recommending authorization, Barney Balaban, president, describes the plan as a means of further cementing "the loyalties and more more firm and enduring the attachment of those men

(*Continued on page 7*)

Byrnes Given Variety Honor

LOS ANGELES, May 18.—The 1946 Humanitarian Award of Variety Clubs International, was presented last night to former Secretary of State James F. Byrnes by Chief Justice Frank M. Vinson of the United States Supreme Court, as the organization concluded a five-day convention here.



Harris & Ewing
James F. Byrnes

In his response, Byrnes declared that the motion picture "has become an unofficial ambassador to many countries, interpreting to other people our American way of

(*Continued on page 3*)

Reviewed Today

"They Won't Believe Me," page 7.

Coming Events

May 21-23—M-G-M field force meeting, Netherlands Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati.
May 25-27—M-G-M field force meeting, Denver.
May 28-29—Montana Theatres Association annual spring convention, Boulder Springs, Mont.
June 3-4—Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Arkansas meeting, Little Rock, Ark.
June 23-25—Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana summer convention, Lake Wawasee, Ind.

Ginsberg's $219,500 Tops Para. Salaries

Henry Ginsberg, vice-president in charge of studio operations, topped the remuneration of all other Paramount officers and directors for the 1946 fiscal year, with $219,500 listed at the weekend, in a report to stockholders. As previously reported, all 16 directors are up for reelection at the annual meeting to be held June 17 at the home office here. In turn, all incumbent officers are candidates for reelection by the directorate.

Remuneration of other officers and directors is listed as follows: Barney Balaban, president and director, $159,000 plus expense allowances of $21,200; Stephen Callaghan, director, $5,000; Y. Frank Freeman, director and studio vice-president, $132,500; Harvey D. Gibson, $5,000; Leonard H. Goldenson, director and vice-president in charge of theatres, $85,000.

Also, A. Conger Goodyear, director, $5,000; Stanton Griffis, director and chairman of the executive committee, none; Duncan G. Harris, director, $5,000; John D. Hertz, director, $5,000; Russell Holman, assistant secretary, $58,100; Jacob H. Karp, assistant secretary, $70,333; Austin C. Keough, director, vice-president and general counsel, $85,000; Earl I. McClintock, director, $5,000.

Also, Fred Meyer, assistant secretary, $20,650; Fred Mohrhardt, treasurer, $37,950; Maurice Newton, director, $5,000; Robert H. O'Brien, secretary, $25,600; Paul Raibourn, vice-president in charge of budget and planning, $30,000; Charles M. Reagan, director and vice-president in charge of domestic sales, $81,482; E. V. Richards, director, none; Edwin L. Weisl, director, $5,000, and Adolph Zukor, director and chairman of the board, $136,400.

The law firm of Simpson, Thacher and Bartlett, of which Weisl is a partner, was paid $171,893 in 1946.

Paramounters To Sing

Paramount Pictures' home office choral society of 50 voices will give its sixth annual concert in the Plaza Hotel on Friday evening, with the proceeds to go for refugee needs in Europe. The choral group will perform under the direction of Edith Morgan Savage. Michael Markel is listed as orchestral conductor.

Personal Mention

BARNEY BALABAN, Paramount chief, accompanied by CHARLES M. REAGAN, CURTIS MITCHELL and STANLEY SHUFORD are expected back at the home office today from the Coast, while CLAUDE F. LEE, public relations director, will leave Hollywood tomorrow for his return East.

•

WILLIAM SARTORI, Monogram International representative for Continental Europe, has left his London headquarters for a two-week trip to Zurich and Paris.

•

MAURY JANOV, special assistant to E. L. SCANLON, Selznick studio executive vice-president, has been elected commandant of the AmVets' Hollywood Post.

•

MIKE CHAKERES, Chakeres-Warner circuit city manager in Springfield, O., will be married to ANNA KATRIS, of Mt. Vernon, O.

•

PAT SOMERSET, Screen Actors Guild assistant executive secretary, returned to Hollywood Friday via American Airlines from Washington.

•

SOLLIE WURTZEL, 20th-Fox assistant director, was slated to leave Hollywood by plane yesterday for New York.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, is in Kansas City.

•

EDWARD L. KINGSLEY, Oxford Films vice-president, has left here for the Coast.

•

LOU RODGERS, 20th-Fox Eastern advertising sales representative, was in New Haven last week.

•

CONRAD BAKER, manager of the Avenue Playhouse, New York, will wed RAQUEL KATZ on June 1.

•

E. O. WILSCHKE, Altec operations supervisor, is on an extended trip to the West Coast from New York.

A. W. SCHWALBERG, Eagle-Lion sales manager, and MAX E. YOUNGSTEIN, advertising publicity chief have returned here from Cleveland.

•

WAYNE SMITH, manager of the Kentucky Theatre, Hartford, Ky., will succeed MRS. STANLEY PERRY, who has resigned as manager of the Lincoln in Hodgenville, Ky.

•

ARTHUR S. ABELES, JR., Warner general manager in Argentina and supervisor there and in Uruguay, Paraguay and Chile, is in New York for conferences.

•

KARL MACDONALD, Warner International vice-president and Latin-America sales chief, left over the weekend on a tour of South American branches.

•

CHARLES MACK, News of the Day's Washington representative, is slated to arrive in New York today on the *SS Drottingholm* after visiting Sweden and Moscow.

•

BERNARD R. GOODMAN, supervisor of Warner exchanges, returned here Friday from a three-week tour of the Midwest and Southwest.

•

ROBERT GOLDFARB, assistant to J. J. UNGER, United Artists sales chief, will leave New York today for Cincinnati and Cleveland.

•

C. J. FELDMAN, Universal-International Western division sales manager, returned to New York from Los Angeles over the weekend.

•

A. P. ARCHER, Civic Theatres president, Denver, and ART SEARS, Civic auditor, have been injured in an automobile accident.

•

GEORGE BILSON, RKO Radio short subject chief, is expected here today from the Coast.

Lou Phillips Acquires Entire Supply Firm

NEW HAVEN, May 18.—Lou Phillips, manager and vice-president of Modern Theatre Supply Co., here, has taken over entire ownership of the company which henceforth will be known as Lou Phillips Theatre Supply, Inc. Phillips has become president, replacing Wally Katz.

Phillips has been associated with the company for 30 years. He will also take over operation of the RCA franchise for Connecticut.

SMPE Meeting This Week

Nat Sobel of Cineffects, Inc., will describe types, uses and production problems of optical effects in films, and Frank Zucker, of Camera Equipment Co., will discuss 35mm. and 16mm. camera accessories and equipment at a meeting of the Atlantic Coast section of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, to be held here Wednesday at the Hotel Pennsylvania.

Kleid New Sales Mgr. Of Capitol Supply

Barney Kleid has joined Capitol Motion Picture Supply Corp. here as sales manager. He will head sales of the RCA projection and sound line, and all other RCA distributed products.

Kleid has been connected with the theatre supply business for 20 years. He was formerly with National Theatre Supply here.

Says 'Abilene' Tops Other UA Releases

Jules Levey's 1946 production of "Abilene Town" "has played more engagements than any other picture released by United Artists," according to Levey's office here. It is said that, although "Abilene Town" has been in release more than 16 months, an average of more than 50 bookings each week continue.

It is understood that the picture has had 14,500 play dates.

Newsreel Parade

THE Motion Picture Association's dinner here to J. Arthur Rank and the appointment of Paramount's Stanton Griffis as Ambassador to Poland are current newsreel highlights. Other items are the return home of England's Royal Family, and Churchill being honored by France. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 75—Churchill awarded France's highest military medal. England gives Royal Family tremendous welcome home. Navy pictures of Byrd at South Pole. Sports: Salmon fishing paradise. Race horses bathe in surf. Camel raising in Africa.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 273—Films of Admiral Byrd in the Antarctic. Millions in Britain hail the Royal Family on return. France pays military honor to Churchill. Sports carnival in Africa for French president.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 76—France honors Churchill. Collapsable auto makes debut. Stanton Griffis appointed Ambassador to Poland. Secretary of Treasury John W. Snyder receives medal for merit. U. S. and British film advisory unit announced at J. Arthur Rank dinner. Films of Admiral Byrd's expedition. England's Royal Family welcomed home.

RKO PATHE, No. 78—Royal Family returns. Belgium pageant portrays Christ's Life. Announce advisory board for U. S. and British film industry at J. Arthur Rank dinner. Churchill honored in France. Films on Byrd Expedition. Thirty-one on trial for Southern lynching. Australians ride to the hounds.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 39—Royal Family greeted on return from South African tour. Film highlights of the Byrd expedition to the South Pole. J. Arthur Rank honored by industry at dinner. President Auriol ends tour. Churchill gets French medal in Paris. Life of Christ reenacted in Belgium. Stanton Griffis appointed Ambassador to Poland.

Films, Other Media Essential: Marshall

WASHINGTON, May 18.—The State Department's overseas information program is essential to correct misunderstanding and misinterpretation abroad concerning American actions and policies, State Secretary Marshall told a House foreign affairs subcommittee holding hearings on a bill to authorize the program, of which films are a key part.

Both Marshall and Assistant Secretary William Benton opposed any "propaganda" program, and endorsed a truthful, factual presentation.

Benton told the committee that the film program at present featured three kinds: Those showing how the democratic process operates, those showing how we live and what we do, and films implementing U. S. foreign policy, such as one on the amount of food sent abroad.

The motion picture division, Benton continued, plans to acquire some 136 reels in the coming fiscal year, about 80 from private industry sources and about 55 Government productions.

20th-Fox Meet Tomorrow

Annual stockholders' meeting of 20th Century-Fox will be held tomorrow at 2 P.M. at the home office here.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

News Houses Swing To 'Art' Pictures

A nationwide drop-off in newsreel theatre business is one of several factors which is expected to bring a 100 per cent increase in a year in the 200 U. S. theatres playing foreign-language films full time, reports Oliver Unger, foreign film distributor, who has completed a 10-city survey of the "art" house field. Telenews theatres in Oakland, Cal., Tacoma and Dallas are among the latest to change over to full-time showings of foreign-language pictures, he said. Many other newsreel houses will follow suit shortly, Unger predicted.

While there are now some 200 full-time foreign-language theatre outlets in the U. S., Unger said, there will be 200 more within a year, recalling that in 1944 there were but eight, due to the shutdown of most foreign-language importations during the war. At present, he said, every U. S. key city supports one or more. Weakest location from the foreign film standpoint is Chicago, he reports, where only the World Theatre operates on a full-time "art-film" basis. Intensification of sales effort there by United Foreign Films Distributors, planned combine of foreign-language distributors for which Unger made the survey, is expected to improve the Chicago situation, he said.

Other factors which will contribute to the predicted increase, Unger said, is the policy of mass first-running U. S. product in a single city (such as is practiced in Los Angeles) tending to destroy business for subsequent runs in a city and compelling exhibitors to resort to foreign-made first-run pictures to stimulate patronage. Also, 20 per cent of the U. S. theatre-going public which regularly patronize "art" houses is influenced by newspaper critics' reviews and foreign-language films have consistently been receiving more favorable notices in the U. S. press. Unger also declared that there is an increasing demand among filmgoers for pictures of an adult, intellectual nature, and many foreign-language pictures are of that variety.

On his trip, Unger visited 60 "art" theatres, in Baltimore, Washington, Dallas, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Denver, Kansas City and Cleveland. He reports Fox West Coast is booking French-language pictures into a number of its first-runs; Coast circuit-owner Sidney Pink has set up a booking combine with a number of theatres in Portland, Tacoma, Seattle, Oakland, and several other cities.

Improper 16mm Uses Topic of Meet Here

Risks involved in the improper use of 16mm. prints made by the industry for the use of the Army were pointed out at a special panel discussion at the joint National 16mm. Industry Exposition and 1947 Allied Non-Theatrical Convention held here at the Hotel Vanderbilt last Thursday through yesterday.

Edward A. Sargoy of Sargoy and Stein, special counsel for major companies in Copyright Protection Bureau matters, pointed out the criminal aspects of improper acquisition. Edward Scheidt of the U. S. Bureau of Investigation, supplemented Sargoy's talk by outlining civil liabilities for copyright infringement.

Byrnes Gets Humanitarian Award



Variety Clubs International honor James F. Byrnes, former Secretary of State. Shown with him are Fred M. Vinson, Chief of the U. S. Supreme Court, and Carter T. Barron, Assistant National Chief Barker of Variety. Variety Clubs on Saturday night concluded a five-day annual convention at the Hotel Ambassador in Los Angeles.

Gutted Rome Firm Made Major Films

Minerva Films, whose headquarters in Rome were destroyed in a film blast Wednesday, was one of the most important Italian motion picture companies. The firm was headed by Anthony Mosco and Costantino Potsios, both Greeks. During the war period the Fascist Government restricted activities of the company and interned Mosco. "Open City" was one of Minerva's first productions following the liberation of Rome. Other recent films were "Rigoletto," "Before Him All Rome Trembled" and "Eugenie Grandet."

The home office and Rome exchange were located in a beautiful villa with a lovely garden at 45, Via Palestro, in the center of Rome's film district. Reports from Rome indicate that the fire-blast occurred in the projection room.

The entire staff present in the building at the time, 90 persons, was killed or injured; the estimated damages, 500,000,000 lire, amounting to approximately $1,000,000.

Kogan Is Columbia Manager in Mexico

Sergio Kogan has been appointed manager of Mexico, by Joseph A. McConville, Columbia Pictures International chief.

Kogan, who succeeds Charles Roberts, recently resigned, has been with the company 11 years, starting as a booker in Lima, Peru. He was promoted to head the Lima branch in 1942 and was transferred to Mexico last year, where he became a branch manager.

Carolina Owners Cancel Convention

CHARLOTTE, N. C., May 18.—Plans for the summer convention of the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina have been abandoned, due to the impossibility of making arrangements at Wrightsville Beach, Asheville, or any other suitable location, reports Pauline Griffith, secretary.

In casting about for a location, the arrangements committee, composed of H. D. (Hank) Hearn, Roy Smart and Roy Rowe, found that hotels are fully booked for conventions through the summer.

20th-Fox Weighs Three Roadshows

HOLLYWOOD, May 18.—The decision on whether 20th Century-Fox will roadshow "Forever Amber," "The Captain from Castile" and "Gentleman's Agreement" will be made following his arrival in New York tomorrow, Spyros P. Skouras, president, disclosed after a three-day conference here with Joseph Schenck and Darryl F. Zanuck for which Skouras, Tom Connors and an executive party flew here last week. Skouras, in boarding a plane for his return trip today, was accompanied by Murray Silverstone, William J. Kupper, William C. Gehring and other home office executives.

Technicolor Meet Today

Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, president of Technicolor, Inc., will preside at a meeting of the company's stockholders, here, this afternoon. Kay Harrison, of Technicolor, Ltd., of London, now visiting this country, will attend the meeting, which has been called for the election of four officers for the term of three years.

Variety to Spend $2,030,000 in '48

LOS ANGELES, May 18. — Variety Clubs, at their international convention here, voted Friday to spend $2,030,000 for charitable enterprises next year.

Earlier, Robert J. O'Donnell and all other national officers, with the exception of William K. Jenkins, national property master, were reelected for the forthcoming year. Jack Beresson, of Philadelphia Tent, was chosen as Jenkins' successor.

In a report on the financial status of Variety, national doughboy Marko Wolf disclosed that the organization has a cash balance of $64,821, including $50,000 received from Paramount for rights to "Variety Girl."

Paramount Studio Host to Variety Club Delegates

LOS ANGELES, May 18.—Paramount was host Friday to delegates to the Variety Clubs International convention here at a luncheon in the Ambassador Hotel.

Barney Balaban, Charles M. Reagan, Claude F. Lee, and Curtis Mitchell were present from the home office.

Studio executives, headed by Henry Ginsberg, included Y. Frank Freeman, Frank Butler, Frank Cleaver, D. A. Doran, A. B. Hilton, R. L. Johnston, Sidney Justin, Jack Karp, Ted Leonard, Luigi Luraschi, William Meiklejohn, George Brown, Morris Simpson, Richard Sokolov, Charles West and Joe Youngerman.

Byrnes Honored

(*Continued from page* 1)

life." He pointed to the responsibility upon those directing the industry to see to it that "without sacrificing the quality of entertainment that makes American pictures welcome everywhere, they do not misrepresent our American life."

There is too much talk of war both in the United States and in the Soviet Union, Byrnes asserted, but he held that the people of both countries do not want war. He added: "I deny that conflict is inevitable . . . I believe we can make the peace and we can keep the peace."

Justice Vinson, who was introduced by Carter T. Barron, first assistant national chief barker, traced the history of Variety Clubs International, and praised its work. He hailed Byrnes' achievements in Congress, in the U. S. Supreme Court and as Secretary of State, and said: "He has taught us the wisdom of firmness and patience in the pursuit of peace and the well-being of common folks."

Ostrer Signs Minney

LONDON, May 18.—Independent production plans of Maurice Ostrer have been finalized with the signing of R. J. Minney as producer, and Leslie Arliss as director. In consequence, shooting will start on "Queen of Love" at Metro's new Elstree Studio on July 14. Distribution arrangements have not been disclosed.

New Theatre Opened

The Alan Theatre, new Century-RKO theatre, was opened at the weekend at New Hyde Park, L. I. George Givot, featured in RKO Radio's "Riff-Raff," officiated at the opening.



ST. LOUIS
St. Louis . . . . . 3 weeks
Shubert (move over) . . 3 weeks
PORTLAND, ORE.
Music Box . . . . . 5 weeks
RICHMOND
Capitol . . . . . 4 weeks
BALTIMORE
Town . . . . . 6 weeks
SEATTLE
Music Hall . . . . . 4 weeks
Music Box (move over) 3rd week
SALT LAKE CITY
Rialto . . . . . 3 weeks
PHOENIX
Vista . . . . . 4 weeks
NEW ORLEANS
Orpheum, Liberty . . . . 3 weeks
Liberty (hold over) . . . . 2 weeks

"The Be of Our

NEW YORK
Astor . . . . . 25th week
CHICAGO
Woods . . . . . 22nd week
BOSTON
Esquire . . . . . 20 weeks
Boston (move over) . . 1st week
LOS ANGELES
Beverly . . . . . 21st week
Palace . . . . . 17th week
Guild . . . . . 8th week
PITTSBURGH
Fulton . . . . . 9 weeks
CINCINNATI
Capitol . . . . . 7 weeks
MIAMI BEACH
Colony . . . . . 11 weeks
Royal (move over) . . . . 2 weeks
Flamingo (move over) . 3 weeks
DENVER
Aladdin . . . . . 4 weeks
Rialto (move over) . . . . 4 weeks
WASHINGTON
Keith's . . . . . 8 weeks
MINNEAPOLIS
Pan . . . . . 8 weeks
SAN DIEGO
Adams, Mission . . . . . 2 weeks
Mission (hold over) . . . 5 weeks

SAN FRANCISCO
United Nations . . . . 8th week
OAKLAND
Tower . . . . . 4 weeks
Franklin (move over) . . 8th week
FRESNO
Tower . . . . . 3 weeks
Kinema (move over) . . 2 weeks
LONG BEACH
Cabart . . . . . 2 weeks
Town . . . . . 2 weeks
Santa Fe . . . . . 2 weeks
State (move over) . . . . 2 weeks
PROVIDENCE
Albee . . . . . 5 weeks
BUFFALO
20th Century . . . . . 5 weeks

TUCSON
Lyric . . . . . 3 weeks
STOCKTON, CAL.
State . . . . . 3 weeks
ROCHESTER
Temple . . . . . 6th week
DALLAS
Melba . . . . . 4 weeks
SAN ANTONIO
Texas . . . . . 3 weeks
GALVESTON
State . . . . . 2 weeks
SACRAMENTO
Capitol . . . . . 3 weeks
Hippodrome (move over)
1 week

LOUISVILLE
Strand . . . . . 4 weeks
SYRACUSE
Empire . . . . . 6th week
PHILADELPHIA
Acadia . . . . . 6th week
Pix . . . . . 6th week
HOUSTON
Kirby . . . . . 4 weeks
FT. WORTH
Palace . . . . . 3 weeks
CLEVELAND
University . . . . . 6th week
Lower Mall . . . . . 6th week
DETROIT
Downtown . . . . . 6th week
MONTREAL
Kent . . . . . 5th week

PORTLAND, ME.
Empire . . . . . 3 weeks
KNOXVILLE
Pike . . . . . 3 weeks
ALTOONA
Olympic . . . . . 2 weeks
WORCESTER
Plymouth . . . . . 3 weeks
FALL RIVER
Centre . . . . . 3 weeks
CUMBERLAND
Liberty . . . . . 2 weeks
SAVANNAH
Weis . . . . . 2 weeks
Roxy (move over) . . . . . 1 week
MADISON, WIS.
Parkway . . . . . 3 weeks

ST. PAUL
Orpheum . . . . . 2 weeks
World (move over) . . . 1st week
SPRINGFIELD, ILL.
Senate . . . . . 3rd week
TACOMA
Blue Mouse . . . . . 2 weeks
VANCOUVER
Hastings . . . . . 3 weeks
WINNIPEG
Garrick . . . . . 4th week
DES MOINES
Orpheum . . . . . 4th week
PEORIA
Beverly, Varsity . . . . . 1 week
Varsity (hold over) . . . . 1 week
CHAMPAIGN
Orpheum . . . . . 4th week
WOONSOCKET
Bijou . . . . . 2 weeks
HARRISBURG
Senate . . . . . 2 weeks
TOLEDO
State . . . . . 3rd week
LITTLE ROCK
Royal . . . . . 2 weeks
MEMPHIS
Strand . . . . . 3rd week
INDIANAPOLIS
Keith . . . . . 3rd week
ATLANTA
Rialto, Hilan . . . . . 2nd week

st Years Lives"

To be released by
RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.



MILWAUKEE
Riverside . . . . . 3 weeks
Alhambra (move over) 3rd week
BRIDGEPORT
Klein Memorial . . . . . 3 weeks
KANSAS CITY
Tower . . . . . 4 weeks
BIRMINGHAM
Birmingham . . . . . 4 weeks
SPOKANE
State . . . . . 3 weeks
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
Broadway . . . . . 4 weeks
CHARLOTTE
Visulite . . . . . 3 weeks

OMAHA
Brandeis . . . . . 4th week
OKLAHOMA CITY
Criterion, Plaza . . . . . 2 weeks
Plaza (hold over) . . . . . 1 week

COLUMBUS, OHIO
Palace . . . . . 2nd week
ALBANY
Grand . . . . . 2nd week

Short Subject

"The Russians Nobody Knows"

(*March of Time—20th-Fox*)

Behind Russia's "Iron Curtain," cameraman Peter Hopkinson caught some candid scenes of daily life, which, it is said, were brought to this country uncensored.

The camera probes gingerly inside hospitals, schools and churches; reveals many of the problems facing post-war Russia. Highlighted is an election which is preceded by much discussion and newspaper comment. At voting time, voters find on the ballot one name, that of Joseph Stalin. Also shown are church services.

The film is an interesting bit of pictorial journalism. However, it reveals nothing new, takes no well informed person beyond that which he already knows. Running time, 19 minutes.

Thomas Will Ask Wider 'Red' Probe

Los Angeles, May 18.—Reiterating that the motion picture industry should "clean its own house," Chairman Thomas of the House Un-American Activities Committee said here Friday after a week of hearings that the subcommittee's work has led him to the conclusion that 90 per cent of "Communist infiltration in Hollywood is in the screen writing field." He added that the Government had added momentum to alleged Communist efforts during the war.

Thomas said that he would make five recommendations in Washington upon his return, including "a broader field investigation of communism" in the film industry as well as "a full-dress public hearing" either in Washington or Hollywood.

FCC Approves 4 New Video Stations Here

Washington, May 18.—The Federal Communications Commission has given final approval to the construction of four new television stations in the New York-Northeastern New Jersey Metropolitan area, bringing the New York total to its full seven authorized stations. The Commission had previously announced its intention of making the grants.

The approved applications were submitted by the Bamberger Broadcasting Service, Bremer Broadcasting Corp., American Broadcasting Co., and the publishers of the *New York Daily News*.

Bookers Meet June 30

The Motion Picture Bookers Club of New York will hold a final meeting of the season at the Taft Hotel on Monday evening, June 30. A buffet dinner will be served. Irving Kaplan of the Randforce circuit is in charge of non-member attendance. Oscar Lager is president of the organization.

Stars at Charity Show

Stars of stage and screen will appear at Madison Square Garden tomorrow for the New York Infirmary building drive show. Marvin Schenck is chairman of the entertainment committee.

81 U. S. Theatres Play French Films

There are some 81 theatres in the U. S. which play French films regularly or on a split-week basis, and 25 more are about to be included, according to Vog Films, distributors of French-made product in this country.

Approximately 85 per cent operate on a split-week basis, and the remainder are straight "art" houses. New York leads, having 19 houses. San Francisco has seven, Boston has five.

Motiograph Closes Worldwide Deal

Chicago, May 18.—Motiograph projectors, sound systems, arc lamps and rectifiers will in the future be distributed throughout the world, except in the U. S., by Frazar and Hansen, Ltd., San Francisco.

Frazar and Hansen also handles products of Altec-Lansing Corp., Strong Electric Corp., and other manufacturers of motion picture equipment and supplies and are thus in a position to completely equip the motion picture theatre.

In the U. S. Motiograph will continue to sell its products through independent supply dealers. In Canada, Dominion Sound Equipment, Ltd., represents Motiograph; while Hawaii and Alaska are serviced by B. F. Shearer of San Francisco and Seattle.

37 New Rank Theatre

(*Continued from page* 1)

vision apparatus developed by Eastern manufacturers. Rank plans to introduce television in one or two of his theatres in London's West End next fall, if Parliament permits television broadcasts from studios to theatre. His own Cinema Television Co. is working on large-screen video now, he said.

Rank told his questioners that he does not believe British films are getting the American playing time they deserve, but declined to ascribe a reason for the situation. He said British pictures are more realistic than Hollywood's. He told reporters that in his 600 British theatres a British picture will average $400 more weekly than an average American picture. He said his companies will produce 30 pictures this year and expects 18 of them to be distributed here.

With Rank at the interview were J. H. McNabb, president of Bell and Howell, with which Rank is associated here; Thomas Law, a Rank Organization engineer and television expert; John Davis, Rank's chief assistant; Rauland and Jock Lawrence, the latter of the J. Arthur Rank Organization in New York.

Rank has left here for Toronto and will go to the West Coast from there.

350 'Cheyenne' Aircasts

Warner's "Cheyenne" will receive special mention over 350 radio stations during June and July under a tieup just arranged with Royal Crown Cola.

Grant Buys Rights To Life of Runyon

The life of Damon Runyon will be filmed by Marshall Grant Pictures, Inc., it was announced Friday by Grant, president of the company.

Grant, interviewed here, said 10 per cent of the earnings of the picture will be contributed to the Damon Runyon Memorial Fund for Cancer Research, and that, in addition, the Grant firm will present to the Fund $25,000 on the day when actual production of the film begins.

The picture will be budgeted at a sum "in excess of $2,000,000," according to Grant. Financing will be arranged by "some Chicago people," including Richard Rosenwald, David Copeland, vice-president of General American Transportation Co., Harry Horner and Henry Hart of Hart, Schaffner and Marx, Grant said.

The Runyon story will be filmed after the completion of "Moonrise," the budget for which is between $1,300,000 and $1,500,000. Following the Runyon film, the Grant firm will produce "Gainesville, U.S.A.," in a new color process known as Spectacolor.

Monogram Renews Franchise in Italy

Distribution franchise of Dr. Giovanni De Berardinis on Monogram product in Italy was renewed this week, with the arrival of the distributor in New York.

"Suspense," "Sunbonnet Sue," "Joe Palooka, Champ," "Allotment Wives," "Swing Parade of 1946," "Where Are Your Children," "Silver Skates," "Decoy," "Below the Deadline" and "Bowery Bombshell" have already been released with Italian dubbing.

Bingo Ruling Sought On Anti-Gambling

Minneapolis, May 18.—Following a ruling by the Minnesota Attorney-General that Bank Night does not come within the scope of the state's recently enacted anti-gambling law, the Minneapolis city attorney's office will ask State Attorney General Burnquist to rule on the legality of Bingo under the act.

Burnquist's Bank Night ruling was handed down at the request of authorities at Ely and Eveleth, Minn.

Maryland Governor Vetoes Child Bill

Baltimore, May 18.—If Governor Lane had signed a bill which would have required special censorship for children of all films shown on Saturday afternoons in Frederick county, the county might not have had any Saturday films at all.

The proposed bill was too specific in stating what the board should disapprove of in its designating what might be appropriate for children on Saturdays. The Board of Censors termed it so.

Pal's Cartoons for 1948

George Pal's distribution agreement with United Artists for two feature cartoons in color calls for the release of the two next year, UA disclosed here yesterday. The films are titled "Rip Van Winkle" and "Tom Thumb."

'Duel' Premiere in London On May 23

London, May 18. — The premiere of "Duel in the Sun" has now been set for Paramount's Carlton Theatre on May 23, although the picture has not yet cleared the censors.

The Selznick Organization is also undecided on whether to invite the customary premiere socialite audience or to invite 1,000 "working class" fans with the aid of popular newspapers. The newspapers frown on the idea of giving free publicity, while trade does not like the idea of turning fans into "free-seaters."

'Duel' Will Open at 20 Philadelphia Theatres

Philadelphia, May 18.—"Duel in the Sun" will open at the Fox and 19 neighborhood theatres here day-and-date on May 30. The neighborhoods will play the film one week, after which it will continue at the Fox. The multiple-run plan is identical with the setup worked out for Greater New York.

Goldenson on MPF

(*Continued from page* 1)

Award, with the presentation made at the banquet by Si Fabian, last year's award winner.

Goldenson accepted the Associate's tribute to the Foundation as "an expression of your desire to cooperate with the nationwide project—if necessary, through merging the Associates with the Foundation in order to serve the greater good of the industry at large." The manner in which such a merger can be effected cannot be determined at present, Goldenson said, adding: "Nobody has any authority to speak for the Foundation until its board of trustees meet in the very immediate future." He then outlined the Foundation's progress to date.

Fred Schwartz, Associates president, presided. Some 26 industry and civic leaders occupied the dais.

Jungmeyer in Alson As Vice-President

Hollywood, May 18. — Jack Jungmeyer, Jr., former 20th Century-Fox writer, has joined Alson Productions as vice-president and associate producer, Edward L. Aperson, president, announces. Jungmeyer's new affiliation includes part ownership in the company. Alson has scheduled five films, for release through 20th-Fox during the next three years.

Suggests 5% Tax on St. Louis Amusement

St. Louis, May 18.—A five per cent city tax on amusement admissions is one of four "preferable" tax recommendations made by Mayor Kaufmann's Citizens' Tax Commission here. It is estimated to produce $750,000 to $1,000,000 annually.

St. Louis claims a deficit of $5,000,000 for 1947.

Decision Reserved

Supreme Court Justice Samuel Null has reserved decision on a $150,000 breach of contract suit brought by Hollywood Plays, Inc., Hopwood Plays, Inc., and Myra Wood against Columbia Pictures. The suit involved sale of a play, "Good Night, Ladies," to Columbia by the plaintiffs in May, 1943.

Paramount Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

who have contributed so much to the success of Paramount."

Employees' Investment would be incorporated in New York, with its capitalization consisting of notes in the principal amount of $3,760,000 and 240,000 shares of common stock at one dollar par value per share.

The notes, to bear interest not in excess of two and one-half per cent, would be purchased by Paramount or sold to banks or other financial organizations under Paramount guarantee. The 240,000 shares of common stock would be offered to top personnel, with the first group to be accorded the opportunity of purchase up to 15,000 shares each, including Y. Frank Freeman, Leonard H. Goldenson, Austin C. Keough and Charles M. Reagan, all directors. No other directors will participate.

Henry Ginsberg, vice-president and general manager in charge of studio operations, would be given the right to purchase 24,000 shares. The total number of participants, it is planned, will approximate 41, with others to be determined on the basis of the "advantage to be gained by the corporation (Paramount) in increasing the interest of officers and key employees in the progress of the corporation."

The board committee, which would select participants, as well as the number of shares to be offered each, comprises Barney Balaban, Stanton Griffis, chairman of the executive committee, and Edwin L. Weisl, board member.

Officers and key employes would purchase the new company's stock at two-thirds of par value.

The notes of Employees' Investment will be subject to annual sinking fund payments, commencing Jan. 31, 1949, based on net earnings of the preceding year. At least 50 per cent of such earnings would be paid each year into the sinking fund. The notes would mature in not less than five years from date of issuance.

Commenting on the financing, Balaban declares: "I am confident that financial institutions will purchase notes of the Investment Company in the amount of $3,760,000, supported by the guarantee of Paramount. It is our expectation that the notes will be repaid with interest and that Paramount will not be called upon under its guarantee."

Paramount will contribute $80,000 to the stock capital.

Employees' Investment would acquire Paramount shares directly through facilities of the New York Stock Exchange, or through the special board committee. No shares will be available from Paramount, which has been acquiring its own stock in the open market since last November.

New Equipment Unit Set Up by Streuber

An engineering consultant and buying service specializing in electric, electronic and motion picture equipment is announced by the New York export firm of K. Streuber. Streuber was formerly export manager for National Theatre Supply and later manager of the theatre and sound division of RCA International.

Associated with Streuber is Walter B. LaChicotte, previously an engineer for RCA, and later sales manager for the sound products division. Also in the new unit is Samuel C. Milbourne, formerly with Eastern Amplifier.

Review

"They Won't Believe Me"

(RKO Radio)

JOAN HARRISON, who used to handle the writing end of Alfred Hitchcock suspense thrillers, produced "They Won't Believe Me," and in the Hitchcock tradition. A highly-polished production, well stacked with marquee names (Robert Young, Susan Hayward, Jane Greer), it is aimed at sizable grosses—and should get them. Finished performances by the entire cast and a neat, suspenseful directorial job by Irving Pichel combine to make a hardly believable story quite believable, for the most part.

Jonathan Latimer's screenplay, based on a story by Gordon McDonell, deals with the marital tribulations of Young, in the role of a stockbroker, whose wealthy spouse, played by Rita Johnson, succeeds in breaking up his extra-marital affairs by reminding him at crucial moments how important her money is in his life. He despises her, but cannot bring himself around to fleeing with a new-found love because of the easy life which his wife's wealth gives him, until he meets Miss Hayward, whose fascination he cannot resist. But when Miss Hayward is killed and burned beyond recognition in an auto accident when they are making off, the authorities believe it was his wife who was killed, and Young returns to the family ranch to murder his wife—but too late: she had committed suicide when she finally realized she could not hold her husband. Young conceals her body to clinch his freedom; it is found several months later and he is brought to trial for her murder. The story is related in flash-back by Young on the witness stand. As the jury files in at the trial's end Young, foreseeing a "guilty" verdict, attempts to fling himself out of the skyscraper courthouse window, but is shot to death before he can commit suicide. The verdict announced thereafter "for the record" is "not guilty."

Miss Greer is cast as the girl with whom Young had found genuine love, and who, no doubt, he would have married had his faith in the jury not faltered. The film, although building slowly at the outset, is studded with many moments of taut suspense thereafter. Miss Johnson, Tom Powers, George Tyne, Don Beddoe, Frank Ferguson and others provide cast support commensurate with the fine performances of the principals.

Running time, 95 minutes. Adult audience classification. For August release.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Para-Liberty

(*Continued from page* 1)

sentative for Liberty, will join Paramount in an undefined executive position under Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution. O'Shea holds a long term contract with Liberty.

Aside from the future services of the three producer-directors, Briskin will join Paramount in what had been described earlier as a specially-created production post at the studio. Meanwhile, Henry Ginsberg, vice-president in charge of production, expressed himself as "highly elated with the acquisition of this production and directorial talent."

Liberty Films assets now passing to Paramount include an interest in "It's a Wonderful Life," which RKO Radio is distributing; "I Remember Mama," starring Irene Dunne and to be produced and directed by Stevens for the same company, and "State of the Union," which Capra will make on the Metro lot for release by M-G-M. Unproduced story properties include "Friendly Persuasion," by Jessamyn West; "No Other Man," by Alfred Noyes; "Glory Shoes," by Ethel Hills; "He Ran All the Way," by Sam Ross; "The Wayward Bus," by John Steinbeck, and "Sister Carrie," by Theodore Dreiser. Involved, also, are contracts with writers Jo Swerling, Howard Koch and Anthony Veiller.

Laflamme Succeeds Rose

ALBANY, N. Y., May 18.—Al Laflamme, former Ritz Theatre manager, has been named manager of the Strand Theatre here by C. J. Latta, Warner manager. Laflamme succeeds Leo Rosen, who is now assistant general manager of Fabian-Hellman Drive-ins and partner with Neil Hellman in a chain of frozen custard ice cream stands.

Dickinson Sues on Trust Allegations

KANSAS CITY, May 18.—Glen Dickinson, circuit head, and five Dickinson companies have filed two suits, one for each of two Dickinson theatres, in United States District Court, here, against 20 defendants, including film companies, alleging unlawful conspiracy to discriminate against independent exhibitors.

The two theatres are the Dickinson at Mission, Kan., closed since April 22, and the Overland at Overland, Kan, still operating. Total losses alleged are more than $500,000, and treble damages are requested.

The petitions refer to the Government suit and the court findings of last December and suggest that Federal allegations of monopoly were found true and certain practices of distributors were said to constitute unreasonable discrimination against small competitors.

Attorneys for Dickinson are Samuel P. Halperin of Minneapolis, Louis B. Schwarz of Minneapolis, Duvaul P. Strother, Kansas City, Mo., and A. J. Pflumm of Mission, Kan.

Start Union Talks at Confidential Reports

Contract negotiations have begun between Confidential Reports, Inc., and Local No. 109, Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, affecting 65 employes. Another meeting is scheduled for Thursday.

Meanwhile, the Guild states a contract had been signed with Sargoy and Stein, legal firm connected with the industry. Terms of the contract, according to a Guild spokesman, provide for a $5 weekly increase or a 15 per cent increase, whichever is higher for 54 employes, and is retroactive to Feb. 1, 1947.



plus the girls they will marry

everybody's going to have

"FUN ON A WEEKEND"

especially the exhibitors who book it from UA

WHOOP IT UP!



From coast to coast . . . from border to border . . . the war drums of SHOWMANSHIP are thundering . . . with renewed **vigor!**

In the tepees of the Big Chiefs of the industry . . . advertising pow-wows herald the coming of great advertising and exploitation campaigns!

From the campfires of great tribes of Showmen . . . comes news of renewed activity . . . as action-hungry warriors invade the hunting grounds . . . of eager patrons . . . with their trusty weapons of eye-and-ear-compelling BALLYHOO!

It's **your** cue to WHOOP IT UP, brother! . . . to get back into the "battle-of-the-Box Office" . . . with SHOWMANSHIP away-from-theatre . . . to bring your patrons **into** camp . . . and TRAILERS and ACCESSORIES at **point-of-contact** . . . to bring them **back** again!

Get started NOW . . . and **lead** this grand campaign to profits . . . with ADVERTISING that hangs up **scalps** at the BOX OFFICE!

SHOWMANSHIP is BACK! and The PRIZE BABY's **got** it!

He's the PRIZE **"Papoose"** of the Industry!

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 98 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, MAY 20, 1947 TEN CENTS

ATA to Upper Court for Appeals 'Voice'

IT and SCTO, CSA Ask To Intervene Directly

American Theatres Association, the Southern California Theatre Owners and the Confederacy of Southern Associations have filed a joint motion with the U. S. Supreme Court at Washington for a direct "voice" — that of intervenor — when the High Court considers appeals of the New York Federal Court industry anti-trust decision.

Already pending is the ATA group's appeal from the denial of its petition to intervene in the New York court. Here the three organizations, jointly, were granted only the right to

(*Continued on page 7*)

Ascap Says It Must Collect from Houses

Suggestions that the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers collect its theatre music tax from distributors or producers will not result in direct action by Ascap which, an official of the society

(*Continued on page 7*)

Paramount Names Mussman Manager

Paramount Pictures has promoted Bill Mussman from salesman to sales manager in Minneapolis. He fills a post that has been vacant since the resignation of Joe Loeffler several months ago.

Mussman has held a sales position with Paramount since 1943, when he joined the company in Minneapolis.

Variety Award to Minneapolis Tent

Hollywood, May 19. — Minneapolis Tent No. 12 is the winner of the International Variety Clubs Heart Award for raising $300,000 to establish a 100-bed heart hospital on the grounds of the University of Minneapolis, a judging committee composed of trade paper representatives announced here.

Technicolor Hits New High

Despite difficulties nurtured by the Hollywood strike, Technicolor Corp. last month had the most successful business month in its history, having delivered over 18,000,000 feet of printed film in April and profited over $300,000, Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, president, told a meeting of the company's stockholders here yesterday. "It was the first month in which we got back to a pre-strike, pre-war basis," he said.

The meeting, held for the election of four board members, resulted in the virtually unanimous re-election of Kalmus, J. L. Anderson, L. G. Clark and Eversley Childs each for three years.

The company, Kalmus said, regards black-and-white filming as its principal competition, rather than the combination of other color processes on the market. Because, he said, it costs about five cents per foot less to make a film in black-and-white than in Technicolor, therein lies Technicolor's competition.

Foreign business is coming back to

(*Continued on page 7*)

MPA Protest Awaits German Film Report

WASHINGTON, May 19.—A formal Motion Picture Association protest on the American Military Government decision to rebuild the German film industry will likely wait on a complete detailed report which Assistant Sec-

(*Continued on page 5*)

Walsh, Tracy Meet On Jurisdiction

Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, will meet in Washington today with Dan W. Tracy, president of the AFL electrical workers' union, to discuss methods of preventing film studio jurisdictional squabbles. Both are members of a five-man committee recently established by AFL president William Green to solve the Hollywood labor problem.

MPF for Northwest Gets Under Way

MINNEAPOLIS, May 19.—An overflow attendance today unanimously approved the Motion Picture Foundation at a luncheon-meeting at the Hotel Nicollet, following an outline of the plan by John Balaban, Chicago circuit executive. Harry French and Benjamin Berger, president of North Central Allied, temporary co-chairmen, discussed the plan briefly, urging support and expressing great need "for the services the Foundation could perform."

An area organization committee of 17 will be named from among 28 nominations as soon as Stanley Kane, NCA executive director, can complete count of the votes and pass on the eligibility of the nominees. First meeting of the area organization is expected to be called by Kane this week to name a permanent chairman.

Grosses Are Reported Steady by Two Fronts

Following a week-long conference with theatre operating partners at Arrowhead Springs, Cal., Leonard H. Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., yesterday reported business continues at a steady level with no downward trend indicated.

Goldenson said he sees no necessity of lowering admission scales as a means of luring customers and reminded that the cut at the New York Paramount Theatre was prompted by the peculiarities of that particular situation. When the house reduced admission prices, about two months ago, the move was described as an effort to bolster morning trade.

KANSAS CITY, May 19.—Exhibitors from "outstate" towns in both Missouri and Kansas say that patronage has not declined markedly, in fact, many report that business is pretty close to previous levels. This is all the more significant in view of the reports of slumps in some larger cities, particularly Kansas City; and scattered reports of declines in other towns.

A mid-May report on the prospective winter wheat of Kansas indicates an all-time record, more than 1,000,000,000 bushels being the forecast based on May 1 conditions. Exhibitors from the territory (who see

(*Continued on page 6*)

Theatres Will Be Heard at Tax Hearings

ATA Petition Already In for Capital Sessions

WASHINGTON, May 19. — The House Ways and Means Committee, which opened extensive hearings today on over-all tax revisions, will hear testimony next week on theatre admission taxes, with the American Theatres Association having asked to air its views.

Excises, of which the ticket levy is an item, are the first specific type of taxes to be considered by the committee. The admission tax will come up after testimony on transportation and communication taxes.

Secretary of the Treasury Snyder, opening the hearings today, said a period of tax reduction is approaching, but that any surplus must be judiciously divided between debt re-

(*Continued on page 5*)

British Ratio 30% of UK Playing Time

TORONTO, May 19.—Although the minimum quota requirement for showing British films in England is 17½ per cent, the actual ratio reached there by British films is 30 per cent, J. Arthur Rank, British industry leader, who has arrived here from

(*Continued on page 7*)

O'Shea Will Confer On His New Duties

With the return to New York yesterday of Barney Balaban and Charles M. Reagan, E. K. (Ted) O'Shea will confer shortly on his duties in the sales organization at Paramount. As reported, O'Shea will be associated in an executive capacity with Reagan following the acquisition by Paramount of Liberty Films for which O'Shea supervised sales.

In This Issue

"Desperate" is reviewed on page 5. "Cynthia" on page 7. New York first run and key city gross reports are on page 6.

June 16 Is Set For 'Red' Hearing

HOLLYWOOD, May 19.—Next step in the investigation of Communist influence in Hollywood will be a public hearing in Washington beginning June 16 before the full House Committee on Un-American Affairs. The sub-committee is now back in Washington after an initial investigation here.

In a statement, Louis B. Mayer of M-G-M declared he assumed Robert Taylor's appearance before the subcommittee last week was due to the mistaken belief that "Song of Russia" was Communistic in plot and action.

"The film is at the studio unchanged since released in 1943. I would like the committee to see it and decide for themselves whether it is Communistic. It is true Russia was our ally in 1943 and our Government was very friendly to the Soviets, but that was not why 'Song of Russia' was made." Mayer further described the film as "simply a love story" about an American symphony conductor who falls in love with a Russian girl.

J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of the sub-committee, declared the hearings here indicated "90 per cent of Communist infiltration" here was in the ranks of writers.

Meanwhile, asserting that the "proper way to investigate truly subversive activity is to do it through the accredited channels of the FBI," Emmet Lavery, Screen Writers' Guild president, has placed himself at the disposal of the House Un-American Activities committee.

Sixth Suit Against Van Nomikos Stays

CHICAGO, May 19.—While five suits against the Van Nomikos circuit alleging false box-office reports on percentage pictures have been dismissed in Federal Court, a sixth—Paramount's—remains within U. S. jurisdiction and will be pursued. Mayer, Meyer, Austrian and Platt, attorneys for the six distributors who originally filed, so stated today.

Claims filed by Loew's, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, UA and Warners were under $3,000 each and thus failed to fall within Federal Court jurisdiction. Paramount's claim, however, exceeds the required $3,000. Meanwhile, the law firm representing the distributors stated the five actions dismissed will be filed in Illinois state courts.

Schoenstadt Talks Suit Settlement

CHICAGO, May 19.—The hearing date for the $6,750,000 anti-trust suit filed by the Schoendstadt Circuit in behalf of its Piccadilly Theatre has been postponed again, this time to June 12. It is believed, however, that a settlement will be reached before the case is tried in the Federal Court here. Settlement discussions continue.

Personal Mention

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president; MURRAY SILVERSTONE, head of 20th-Fox International, and ANDREW SMITH, JR., WILLIAM GEHRING and SAM SHAIN returned here yesterday from the Coast, while TOM CONNORS, distribution chief, is expected today and CHARLES SCHLAIFER, advertising-publicity director, is slated to return tomorrow.

•

J. F. DOLID, assistant to BEN KALMENSON, Warner sales chief, and NORMAN AYERS, Southern division sales manager, will be in Atlanta and Charlotte this week.

•

FRED G. SLITER, 20th Century-Fox salesman in Albany, is in Memorial Hospital there recuperating from pneumonia.

•

ROY HAINES, Warner Midwest sales manager, has returned to the home office after a trip through his territory.

•

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Warner Eastern district manager, left here yesterday for Albany and Gloversville, N. Y., and will return on Thursday.

•

AL MYERS, formerly with M-G-M in Canada, has joined the Albany staff of Universal-International as salesman.

•

JACK BERNARD has become the third salesman on the Producers Releasing Corp. staff in New Orleans.

•

WILLIAM JACOBS, Warner producer, left the Coast yesterday to study talent and material in New York.

NATE J. BLUMBERG, Universal - International president, and MRS. BLUMBERG are slated to leave here Friday for the Coast.

•

J. J. DONOHUE, Paramount Central division sales manager, has returned to New York after a two-week trip in his territory.

•

RUSSELL STEWART of M-G-M's publicity staff, has returned from a vacation, while MITCHELL RAWSON, of the same department, has begun one.

•

J. ARTHUR RANK is expected to arrive in Monterey, Cal., at the end of the month for three weeks of golf before proceeding to Hollywood.

•

RUDY BERGER, M-G-M Southern sales manager, is in Dallas from New Orleans for meetings with JOHN S. ALLEN, his new field assistant there.

•

STEVE BROIDY, Allied Artists-Monogram president, is planning to sail for England and Europe on Aug. 1.

•

EDDIE CLINE, Monogram director, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

AILEEN BRENON, Paramount chief of magazine publicity here, has returned from St. Louis.

•

FREDERICK H. GILDEMEYER, Western Electric's Puerto Rico manager, is in New York.

•

ED AARONOFF, of Warners New York publicity staff, and MRS. AARONOFF are parents of a son.

Plan Tour Meeting For 'Freedom Train'

WASHINGTON, May 19.—Delegations from production, distribution and exhibition will meet with President Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark at the White House on Thursday to lay the groundwork for promotion of a traveling exhibit of national documents. The meeting has been called by Clark.

Presently planned is the launching of a "Freedom Train" from this city on a year-long tour of the country displaying outstanding documents from American history.

A short and several film trailers on the subject are to be made in connection with the Americanism campaign, according to the Department of Justice.

The president's participation in the meeting is not definite, it being contingent on the condition of his mother, now ill.

Koerner Left $867,855

HOLLYWOOD, May 19.—The late Charles Koerner left an estate valued at $867,855, to his widow, Vivian, according to a probate of his will.

12 Brazil Exchanges Set by Monogram

A nationwide chain of 12 exchanges has been completed in Brazil for distribution of Monogram and Allied Artists films, Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram International, announces here.

H. Alfredo Steinberg, general manager for Brazil, and Bernard J. Gates, Latin American supervisor, have established main offices in Rio de Janeiro, and branches in Sao Paulo, Porto Alegre, Recife (Pernambuco), Curitiba, Ribeirao Preto, Botucatu, Bahia (Sao Salvador), Belo Horizonte, Campos, Rio Preto and Itauba.

American Films Lead

WASHINGTON, May 19.—American musical films still lead the German hit parade.

According to letters dropped in "fan request boxes" newly installed by the U. S. Film Exchange in houses in the U. S. Sector of Berlin, there is a demand for revival of the following American films, already shown: "Maytime," "Firefly," "Naughty Marietta," "Great Ziegfeld," "Captains Courageous," "Marie Antoinette" and "Alexander's Ragtime Band."

Col. Appoints Smith To Studio Publicity

HOLLYWOOD, May 19.—Lou Smith has joined Columbia Pictures as director of studio publicity, succeeding Frank Rosenberg who resigned. A former publicity chief at M-G-M's home office, Smith has been with Columbia and Universal. In 1944 he joined Lester Cowan Productions.

PRC and Toll Close Distribution Deal

HOLLYWOOD, May 19.—Producers Releasing Corp., Harry H. Thomas, company president, has signed a releasing deal with Ensign Productions headed by Lionel Toll, whose "Blonde Savage" is scheduled to go before the cameras in six weeks.

Newfield Critically Ill

HOLLYWOOD, May 19.—Director Sam Newfield is in critical condition in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital here following cranial surgery for injuries sustained in a fall Friday.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Claudette COLBERT Fred MacMURRAY
"THE EGG AND I"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
Shirley Temple · Franchot Tone · Guy Madison
in Honeymoon

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY at 45
ON SCREEN
ANNE BAXTER
WM. HOLDEN
SONNY TUFTS
'BLAZE OF NOON'
IN PERSON
CHARLES TRENET
EXTRA! Dorothy DONEGAN
Plus Others

The ENTERPRISE STUDIOS present
BARBARA STANWYCK DAVID NIVEN
in ERICH MARIA REMARQUE'S
"THE Other LOVE"
with RICHARD CONTE
Released thru United Artists
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A.M. POPULAR PRICES
RIVOLI B'way at 49th St.
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco. New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

A NEW COMET WITH A GREAT TALE *

* "Comet's first tinter solid picture-making. Should draw heavily. Gaily conceived, shrewdly turned out. Should do well in majority of situations. Hot action. Well executed color!" —*Hollywood Variety*

* "A new and dashing character in the title role. Sure to gain a large following!" —*M. P. Daily*

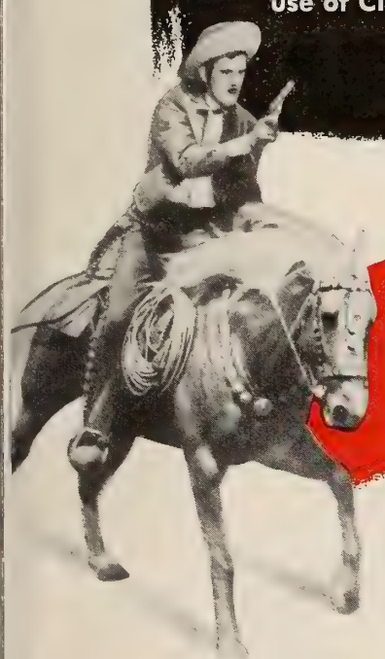
* "A refreshing new entry, action-filled. A natural!" —*M. P. Herald*

* "Unusually good western . . . fine portrayals . . . beautiful Cinecolor . . . acceptable in any situation!" —*Showmen's*

* "For click potentialities. Superior western program entertainment, should do very well!" —*Film Daily*

* "Will have the fans clamoring for more. Both exhibitor and patron will go for it in a big way. Very fine use of Cinecolor. Effects achieved are superb!" —*Independent*





action-packed, thrill-laden, wonderful-west

CINECOLOR!

COMET PRODUCTIONS, Inc.
presents

"THE ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE"

with FRANCIS RAFFERTY

and presenting RICHARD MARTIN as DON COYOTE



* *they said it . . . now you get it from* **UA**

Loew-MGM to Build In Washington

WASHINGTON, May 19.—Film Row attributes to the sumptious Johnston offices in Washington the fact that Loew-M-G-M is giving up its old quarters on Film Row on New Jersey Avenue and will move to a new building at 17th and De Salles, in the swank Connecticut Avenue hotel area.

The company has acquired a corner plot, directly at the 17th Street side of the Mayflower Hotel, and will erect a four-story building with about twice the capacity of the present exchange. Two lower floors in the building will house the exchange staff and film handling department in larger space than is now occupied. The two upper floors will be devoted to more general and official purposes, the third floor divided between offices for visiting executives and Carter Barron's public-relations staff in Washington, which has handled a majority of functions in the past. The fourth floor will include a projection room, seating 100, and a lounge for the entertainment of guests and the showing of films to Congressional, official and public-relations groups.

W. L. Bell to Paris For WE's Westrex

William L. Bell has been appointed European recording manager of the Westrex Corp., foreign motion picture equipment and service subsidiary of Western Electric. He has already left New York aboard the *SS LaSalle* to set up headquarters in Paris.

Bell joined ERPI in 1928, going to Western Electric when ERPI merged with the parent company. He has been a member of Westrex since Oct., 1946. During his years with Western Electric, Bell has seen service in Hollywood, London and Paris.

Spitzer to Fashion Fair

Antoinette Spitzer, formerly Eastern publicity director for Walt Disney, has been engaged by Lester B. Stone, executive director of The Fashion Fair, to do special exploitation and publicity for the fair to be held at Madison Square Garden, June 12-21. The Fair will be produced by Leon Leonidoff, Radio City Music Hall producer.

Just between Independent Producers and Distributors and Ourselves...

•

How about a switch now to real showmanship in selling and promoting your product?

We offer a top-flight package deal in press books, with the proper emphasis on advertising, publicity and exploitation.

•

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Circle 6-4846

Make Film Record of Variety Convention

Hollywood, May 19 — The Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers will present a complete motion picture record of the 11th Variety Clubs International convention held in Los Angeles last week to Robert O'Donnell, national chief barker, a spokesman revealed. Expected to run about three reels, opening with the arrival of the first special train and closing with the Humanitarian Awards dinner last Saturday, the film was made without advance disclosure of the project with Fox Movietone News and the Walt Disney studio cooperating.

M-G-M Group Off to Cincinnati Meeting

M-G-M's home office group will leave here today for Cincinnati to attend the first of two office managers' meetings, to be held at the Netherlands Plaza Hotel in that Ohio city. There will be 31 office managers, master bookers, field auditors and home office personnel on hand for the three-day sessions, which will get under way tomorrow. The second conclave will start at the Cosmopolitan Hotel, May 26, in Denver, when 26 will be in attendance. Charles K. Stern, Loew's assistant treasurer, and Alan F. Cummings, head of the company's branch operations and maintenance, will jointly conduct the sessions.

Leaving for Cincinnati today from the home office will be Stern, Cummings, W. G. Brenner, Charles O'Brien, William Ornstein, Harold Postman, and M. L. Simons. Bookers to attend include Parke D. Agnew and Arthur Sterling. Field auditors will be Charles Bell, H. C. Gentzel, Irving Margolin, Charles School, Harry A. Simons and Arthur Sklar.

MGM Tradeshows Set On Six More Films

M-G-M has scheduled six more tradeshows, making a total of nine to be screened for exhibitors from May 26 to Aug. 5. No release dates have been set on any of the nine.

The new crop of six include: "Song of Love," June 17; "The Hucksters," July 1; "Song of the Thin Man," July 17; "Merton of the Movies," July 22; "Tenth Avenue Angel," July 28 (everywhere except Washington, where it is set for July 29); "The Unfinished Dance," Aug. 5.

Start Pathe-Union Talks

Negotiations on wages and working conditions between representatives of Pathe Industries and Local No. H-63, Motion Picture Home Office Employes Union, IATSE, will begin here today. The negotiations will cover 35 office employes, who work here and in Bound Brook, N. J.

Conn. ATO Meet Today

NEW HAVEN, May 19.—A meeting of Allied Theatres of Connecticut will be held here tomorrow.

Seven Para. Meetings For '35 Years' Drive

The series of branch meetings being held by Paramount in advance of the opening of its "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership" sales drive on Aug. 31 entered its third week yesterday, when two-day sessions started in Buffalo, Cincinnati and Kansas City.

Presiding at Buffalo is Hugh Owen, Eastern and Southern division sales manager. Earle W. Sweigert is conducting the one in Cincinnati. Other meetings to be held this week by Owen will be in Albany, N. Y., tomorrow and in New Haven on Thursday.

Two meetings in Western division sales manager George A. Smith's territory will be held, one in Des Moines tomorrow, the other will start in St. Louis on Thursday and will run through Friday.

FCC Decision on 7 FM Boston Stations

WASHINGTON, May 19.—The Federal Communications Commission today announced its proposed decision to grant seven Class B frequency modulation stations in Boston. Specific channels will be decided at a later date. Applications were granted to: Columbia Broadcasting, Matheson Radio, Yankee Network, Unity Broadcasting, Templetone Radio, Massachusetts Broadcasting and Harvey Radio Laboratories.

Lucille Gleason, 59, Dies in Her Sleep

HOLLYWOOD, May 19.—Lucille Webster Gleason, 59, former actress and wife of screen and radio star Jimmy Gleason, died Sunday in her sleep of a heart attack at her Brentwood home. Since the death of her son, 36-year-old actor Russell Gleason, in a hotel fall in New York on Christmas night, 1945, Mrs. Gleason had been ailing, friends reported. Five years ago, Mrs. Gleason dropped out of pictures. She and her husband had had a stage career together before coming to Hollywood in 1928.

The funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon at St. Martin's Church, Brentwood Heights, with interment in Calvary Cemetery.

Funeral Services for Young David E. Rose

David Evert Rose, Jr., 31, Paramount International theatre department trainee, son of David E. Rose, film producer, and Mrs. Helen H. Rose, died Saturday morning at French Hospital, here.

Rose was stationed in Havana, from where severe illness prompted his return to New York for a series of operations. Private services were held here yesterday at Campbell's Funeral Parlor, Madison and 81st Street. Besides his parents, he is survived by his wife, Martha, a son, D. Evert, 3rd, and a brother, Donald.

Probate Ferguson Will

BUFFALO, May 19.—George W. Ferguson, salesman for Columbia Pictures for 17 years and one of the best known film salesmen in the state, left a gross estate of $79,795 and a net of $76,603, according to a state tax appraisal filed in Surrogate's Court. He died on March 29, 1946.

Eagle-Lion Group to Opening of 'Repeat'

A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and sales manager of Eagle-Lion Films, will leave here today for Zanesville, O., where he will attend the world premiere Thursday of Eagle-Lion's "Repeat Performance" at the Liberty Theatre.

Accompanying Schwalberg will be Max E. Youngstein, Eagle-Lion director of advertising-publicity. Already in Zanesville are Jerry Pickman, Eagle-Lion assistant director of advertising-publicity; Bob Condon, feature writer, and field exploiteers George Bennett and Peter Bayes.

Louis Bromfield, Pulitzer Prize-winner, will be master-of- ceremonies at the world premiere of Eagle-Lion's "Repeat Performance" at the Liberty Theatre in Zanesville, O. on Thursday.

2-3 Years for Video Theatre Equipment

HOLLYWOOD, May 19. — Theatre equipment of commercial quality adequate for the presentation of events of compelling interest may be available within two or three years, according to a preliminary report to the Motion Picture Association-financed research council committee on television by John P. Livadary, who has returned from an Eastern investigation tour.

No proof has yet been given that commercial theatre television could operate for profit or adequately display the entertainment which requires high technical perfection, Livadary added in his data which will be consolidated with other material for final presentation to the council.

New WB Exchange

MINNEAPOLIS, May 19.—Warner's new exchange building being erected on Currie Avenue is expected to be ready for opening late in July, it was disclosed by Art Anderson, branch manager, and Herman Goldberg, supervisor of maintenance from the home office.

Film Classics Merger

ALBANY, N. Y., May 19. — Film Classics Distributing Corp. and Buffalo Film Classics Corp. have been merged into Film Classics, Inc. Stillman and Stillman, New York, were the attorneys.

ATOI Warns Owners On Self-Censoring

Indianapolis, May 19.—"Exhibitors must exercise their own censorship," the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana declares in a bulletin. "This will be your obligation and the only alternative to an unreasonable Government censorship over which you have no control."

The ATOI also took strong exception to advertising methods used recently to exploit new pictures. "We have always maintained that this industry could well regulate itself," it declared. "We point to the Production Code Administration and to the responsiveness of producers to various reviewing groups."

Two RKO Promotions In Latin America

Erich Steinberg has been named RKO Radio manager for Panama, and Joseph Rosenfeld has been named traveling auditor for Latin America, by Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign sales.

Steinberg was formerly sales manager in Brazil and Rosenfeld had served as chief accountant for the company in Chile.

Tax Hearings

(*Continued from page* 1)

A urement and tax reduction. He outlined the current situation on 21 types of taxes, but made no recommendations on the questions of excises.

Snyder said, "Each should be carefully considered with a view to reducing or eliminating those which are extremely regressive, or which enter into business costs, or which are unduly burdensome on profits of particular industries, or which are unusually difficult to administer.

Snyder also pointed out that some American corporations doing business abroad become subject to excessive tax burdens unless some allowance is made in the American tax law. For taxes paid abroad such corporations, he said, should not be placed at a disadvantage in their competition with foreign firms.

Incorporate Fox Siam

ALBANY, N. Y., May 19.—Twentieth Century-Fox Siam, Inc., has been incorporated to import, export and distribute films. Incorporators are Raymond J. Gorman, David H. Jackman and Charles N. Caldwell.

Review

"Desperate"

(RKO Radio)

"DESPERATE" is a hard-knuckle gangster picture that packs the kind of melodramatic wallop necessary to fully meet the entertainment demands of those who are drawn to rough-and-tough film fare whether or not it has cast "names" for sale. Modestly budgeted though it is, this one is a thriller that should set pulses pounding no less quickly than if it had been more expensively produced, and credit therefor goes to Anthony Mann's many deft directorial touches and to the sharp impact of good minor-key photography by George E. Diskant.

Harry Essex's screenplay tells about a young war-veteran truck-owner who is forced by gangsters into lending himself and his vehicle to the robbery of a warehouse. A policeman is killed before the get-away, and when one of the gang is captured the others threaten to harm the truck-owner's young bride unless the innocently-involved man turns himself over to the authorities and takes "the rap." But the truck-owner and his wife elude the gangsters, and the remainder of the film is devoted to the gang-leader's pursuit of the couple half way across the country. In the final reel truckman Steve Brodie and gang-leader Raymond Burr shoot it out in a tense tenement-hallway battle, with the former left holding the "winning" pistol. Performances are uniformly adequate in a cast which also includes Audrey Long, Douglas Fowley, William Challee, Jason Robards, Freddie Steele, and others.

Running time, 73 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Indian Film Here

"Children of India," feature Indian motion picture dealing with modern times has arrived in New York, according to Thomas J. Brandon, president of Brandon Films, Inc., who will represent the producer. The picture was written and directed by K. A. Abbas, Indian journalist-playwright, who is expected to visit Hollywood shortly.

Tradeshow 'Dear Ruth'

"Dear Ruth," Paramount Pictures will be tradeshown on June 6 in all branch areas, except New York, where it will be screened on May 27.

S. Rose to Buy Plays

Stanley Rose has arrived in New York from Hollywood for the purchase of books, stories and plays for production by the newly-formed producing organization, Screen Plays, Inc., which is headed by Stanley Kramer, formerly of David Loew and Story Productions.

Wilson with AAA

BUFFALO, May 19.—James B. Wilson, former football coach at the University of Buffalo and Canisius College, has been appointed regional manager of the American Arbitration Association.

Schnitzer to Boston For Sales Meeting

BOSTON, May 19. — Edward M. Schnitzer, Eastern and Canadian sales manager for United Artists, is expected here tomorrow for the first of two sales conferences with district managers. He will then proceed to Philadelphia for talks with Mark N. Silver, district manager for the Philadelphia-Washington territory.

MPA Protest Awaits

(*Continued from page* 1)

retary of War Petersen is seeking from Berlin. MPA officials feel still further clarification is needed from on-the-spot sources.

Petersen's report is not expected for another week or ten days. He promised to make it when he met with MPA vice-president Francis Harmon some 10 days ago. At that time, it is understood, Harmon made a personal protest to Peterson on an "if-these-reports-are-true" basis. Petersen then said he would query Brig. Gen. Robert A. McClure, director of information control, AMG, on the situation, and let the industry officials know.

Industry officials have little doubt that the earlier reports of the Berlin decisions are true, but want to be absolutely certain before taking so extreme a step as formally protesting to Cabinet officials and the President.

Walker in New Post

Don Walker, field public relations representative for Warner Brothers in the Kansas City area, is covering the Western territory while Dick Stephens is working on the Cheyenne world premiere of "Cheyenne." Walker was in San Francisco several days ago and is now in Salt Lake City.



Hubba hubba hub three men in a tub **everybody's going to have**

And you will **everyday** you play this Andrew Stone hit from **UA**

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses, exclusive of Federal tax, for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

"Smash-Up" showed pronounced strength at the box-office. Generally, however, grosses are trailing behind the figures of recent weeks. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 19-23:

THE IMPERFECT LADY (Para.)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,000)
THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $10,000)
STAGECOACH TO DENVER (Rep.) and SPOILERS OF THE NORTH (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average: $1,600)
MILLION TO ONE (Popular) and RAIDERS OF THE SOUTH (Mono.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,100)
THE SEA HAWK (WB reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB reissue)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000)
SMASH-UP (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $7,500)
THE THIEF OF BAGDAD (Film Classics reissue) and THE GHOST GOES WEST (Film Classics reissue)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,000)
THE GUILT OF JANET AMES (Col.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,000)
THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week, following an initial week at the Palace and a first moveover week at the Shubert. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000)

ATLANTA

Business was generally fair. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 21:

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $18,500. (Average: $19,000)
BEDELIA (E-L)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,700)
STELLA DALLAS (Film Classics reissue)—ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,300)
CAPTAIN CAUTION (Favorite Films) and CAT'S CLAW MURDER MYSTERY (Favorite Films)—CAPITAL (2,446) (12c-44c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,200)
THE RED HOUSE (U-A)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,000)

BALTIMORE

Most pictures in town are drawing about average or below at box-offices.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 22:

DISHONORED LADY (UA)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $14,000)
THE IMPERFECT LADY (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $14,000)
THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $12,000)
THE SEA HAWK (WB reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB reissue)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $16,500)
BEDELIA (E-L)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $17,500)
THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29-37c-44c-56c) 3rd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,500)
HIT PARADE OF 1947 (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,500)
CARMEN (Superfilm)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-55c) 3rd week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,000)
THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000)

NY First-run Business Off

Box-office receipts here dwindled a little this week at several New York first-runs, particularly at those where films are winding up holdover runs. Exclude "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "Odd Man Out."

A new hit is "The Other Love," at the Rivoli, where a first week's gross of $40,000 is visible. New Yorkers still favor "Best Years," at the Astor, which is likely to wind up its 26th week with $30,000. "Odd Man Out" at the Criterion is headed for $28,000 in a fourth week, an increase of $4,000 over the third. "Duel in the Sun" is losing ground at the Capitol, where the second week's business is estimated at $65,000.

"Carnegie Hall" is still keeping two theatres profitably engaged, with a strong $39,000 indicated for the Winter Garden and a more moderate $9,000 seen for the Park; the film is in a third week at both places.

"The Egg and I," with a stage show, is holding up fairly well in its fourth and final week at the Music Hall, on an estimated $110,000; it will be followed on Thursday by "Great Expectations." "Homestretch," with vaudeville at the Roxy, is sluggish in its fourth and final week, at $58,000; Jack Benny and his radio troupe, plus Marjorie Reynolds will open at the house tomorrow with "Brasher Doubloon" on the screen.

At the Strand, "Live and Learn," with Ina Ray Hutton's orchestra in person, drew $19,500 Friday through Sunday, suggesting about $35,000, not too big, for the third week of the show. "The Two Mrs. Carrolls" at the Hollywood is good at $17,000 for a seventh week.

"Monsieur Verdoux" is down to a poor $8,000, estimated, in a sixth and final week at the Broadway where it will be replaced by "Dishonored Lady" on Friday. "The Macomber Affair" is about exhausted at the Globe on a $15,500 gross for a fifth and final week; "Framed" opens on Saturday. "The Guilty," at the Gotham, is better than average with $11,500 seen for a first week; it will continue.

The fourth week of "Calcutta," with Duke Ellington's bandsmen at the Paramount, seems good for about $60,000; "Imperfect Lady" will begin there tomorrow. "Shoot to Kill" is fair at the Rialto with a probable $7,000 for a week's run; two new ones from 20th Century-Fox, "Jewels of Brandenberg" and "Backlash," will follow on Friday. "The Jolson Story" probably will bring in $9,200 in a third and final week of a "repeat performance" at the Victoria and will be followed on Thursday by "Temptation," a British film starring James Mason, made a few years ago.

Short Subjects

"The Will to Live"

(RKO Pathe-UJA)

The seeming miracle wrought by the United Jewish Appeal in the rescue and rehabilitation of displaced persons is graphically recorded in this subject, produced by RKO Pathe in conjunction with the UJA's current campaign for $170,000,000.

Narrated with restraint by Paul Muni, it is a competently-made documentary, showing the squalor and horror that is the lot of Europe's displaced persons. After lingering briefly on misery, the cameras shift to Palestine and America, ending on a note of promise. The film constitutes a noteworthy piece of pictorial journalism and is available to exhibitors through local UJA chapters. Running time, 20 minutes.

"Shadows of Hate"

(March of Time-UJA)

The work being done by the United Jewish Appeal to help mend the broken survivors of Hitlerism is dramatically told in this subject, made by March of Time.

The film turns back the pages of history, to trace the birth and death of Hitlerism and depict the consequences in terms of present-day human needs. Inserted into the footage is a brief talk by Gen. Eisenhower. The subject, brisk and timely, was made as part of the UJA drive, and may be obtained by exhibitors through local UJA offices. Running time, 20 minutes.

Kans.-Mo. Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

in agricultural production the key to their local prosperity), say that while weather has been too cold and wet, corn is now being planted, and unless unforeseen obstacles arise, farmers will generally do very well.

The decline in merchandise sales, and theatre attendance, in Kansas City is blamed partly on the telephone strike, which hampers business operations; partly on other strikes whereby, combined with telephone operatives being idle, there are tens of thousands not buying normally.

OKLAHOMA CITY, May 19.—The Oklahoma Tax Commission reports that March sales tax returns indicated a 9.07 per cent increase in theatre grosses over March of 1946. A total of 363 returns were filed by theatres in March of this year, compared with 308 for the corresponding month last year.

Para. Outing June 29

HOLLYWOOD, May 19.— The Paramount Studio's annual outing will be held June 29. Some 2,100 employees will be transported to Catalina Island by chartered boat.

STARS! TONIGHT!
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN
8:15 P. M.
Never such a line-up! Benefit
N. Y. Infirmary Building Fund
(LISTED ALPHABETICALLY)

ANDREWS SISTERS
FRED ASTAIRE
LUCILLE BALL
FRED & ELAINE BARRY
MILTON BERLE
LUCIENNE BOYER
CARMEN CAVALLARO
JOS. COTTEN
BRIAN DONLEVY
JESSICA DRAGONETTE
TONY & SALLY DE MARCO
DUKE ELLINGTON & ORCH.
STAN FISHER
HELEN HAYES
JENNIFER JONES
BERT LAHR
ELLA LOGAN
JACKIE MILES
VICTOR MATURE
CARMEN MIRANDA
ETHEL MERMAN
MARGARET O'BRIEN
LEW PARKER
JEAN PARKER
N. Y. POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE
LOUIS PRIMA & ORCH.
BILL ROBINSON
THE ROCKETTES
ROSARIO AND ANTONIO
THE ROXYETTES
JIMMY STEWART
ED SULLIVAN
HAZEL SCOTT
FRED WARING & ORCH. & Glee Club
HENNY YOUNGMAN
The Production number from Geo. Abbott's "BAREFOOT BOY WITH CHEEK"
Grand Finale staged by LEON LEONIDOFF

TICKETS FROM $1.20 to $4.80 (Incl. Tax)
ON SALE MADISON SQUARE GARDEN AND IN HOTEL ASTOR LOBBY

ANNOUNCING
"FAR INTO THE NIGHT"
BELL PICTURES CORP.

Jack Auslet Forming Producing Company

NEW ORLEANS, May 19.—A producing company is being organized here, to be known as Pelican Pictures Corp. Jack Auslet of Dixie Films is the organizer and has practically everything ready for an early start. Distribution in New Orleans territory will be handled through Dixie Film Corp., and in Dallas. Oklahoma City, Memphis and Atlanta by Astor Pictures offices in those cities.

Pictures will also be available in 16 mm. for non-theatrical use and for foreign countries.

Ascap Collections

(*Continued from page* 1)

states, is obligated to "collect music performing fees where the music is performed."

It was said, however, that while Ascap is not in a position to approach the distributors or producers, offers from either of the two would be considered. Most production-distribution companies are represented on Ascap's board through their music publishing subsidiaries.

The organization's plan to revise the theatre music performing rate structure is termed a "burner turned out" temporarily, that is, until a successor to the late John G. Paine is chosen as general manager. A four-man committee designated by the board of directors has the matter of a successor under study.

ATA Appeal Move

(*Continued from page* 1)

be heard in the case as "friends of the court."

With the new legal maneuver, ATA and its allies seek to further their persistent fight against competitive bidding which if demanded by law, would have as a result "chaotic" conditions within the industry, the ATA claims.

In the new direct motion for leave to intervene it is asked that the bidding provisions of the New York court's decree "be held erroneous" and that the decision accordingly be reversed.

A precedent for the direct action is claimed, one involving a Government case against the Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis.

Enterprise Buys Novel

Enterprise has purchased the new Lion Feuchtwanger novel, "Proud Destiny" at a price reported over $300,000. It will be published in September by Viking Press.

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Review

"Cynthia"

(M-G-M)

CHIEF among the modest assets of Edwin H. Knopf's production is a warm and gentle story about believeable people, focused against a background of a 'teen-ager's problems. It is enjoyable entertainment for the family.

The Harold Buchman-Charles Kaufman screenplay outlines a sense of social alienation produced in a child by the misguided and excessive attentions of her parents. Wanting to be one of her crowd, playing normal games and attending social activities, the child is constantly thwarted by well-meaning parents who treats her as an invalid. She finally breaks free from parental discipline, attends a junior prom, and the consequences are the happy opposite of those direly predicted.

There is a good deal of gentle humor in the film with pleasant fillings of song and youthful ardor. In the title role as the 16-year-old daughter, whose earlier years were overshadowed by frail health, Elizabeth Taylor's performance is both touching and talented. George Murphy and Mary Astor, as the parents whose globe-circling dreams simmer down to routine life in a small town, meet the requirements of their assignments, and director Robert Z. Leonard obtained pleasing caricatures from Gene Lockhart and S. Z. Sakall as a small town physician and a music professor, respectively.

Running time, 98 minutes. General audience classification. For July release.

MANNY HERBSTMAN

British Ratio 30%

(*Continued from page* 1)

Chicago, declared in an interview. British pictures are grossing $400 more per theatre per week in England than are American productions, he said. Additionally, Rank said, he has found that resistance in the U. S. to British pictures had been reduced appreciably.

Rank declared that "Henry V" would give the greatest financial returns from North America. War conditions had caused the production cost of "Anthony and Cleopatra" to mount to $6,000,000 and the revenue from that picture would not meet the expenditure, he pointed out.

With their realism, British films are rather grim when compared with U.S. product and more comedy is needed in British pictures. Already one of his studios is turning out cartoons while another studio will start to produce religious films in June. Plans had been made for the production of juvenile features while one educational film is being made weekly in cooperation with a committee of the British Ministry of Education. He felt there is little danger of nationalization of the film industry by the British government for the present at least.

Reaction to British films in the United States is practically the same as the public's attitude throughout the world.

Rank said there had been some loss of British talent to Hollywood but they are gaining personal experience there which would help in the long run. Many British players are remaining in England under long-term contracts, some being for 10-year periods.

Pollard Sees Rank

TORONTO, May 19.—Bud Pollard, president of the Screen Directors Guild, Hollywood, attended an invitational luncheon today for J. Arthur Rank at the King Edward Hotel, here. Pollard also discussed with Rank future production at the Queensway Studios, Rank subsidiary, in Toronto.

'Possessed' Tradeshow

National tradeshowing of "Possessed," Warner Brothers, has been set for Monday, June 16. Picture will be generally released late in July, following a premiere engagement at the Hollywood Theatre, New York, starting May 29.

Cleveland Seeks Cut On Amusement Levy

CLEVELAND, May 19.—Mayor Thomas Burke of this city seeks to have the state return to cities monies collected from a three per cent amusement tax during the first nine months of this year. A city three per cent amusement tax is expected to return $700,000 annually.

Burke's action follows passage of a state three per cent tax repeal bill by the House. The bill is now before the Senate, with the support of Gov. Herbert.

Technicolor High

(*Continued from page* 1)

the company "too fast to handle," Kalmus said, adding that the continuing scarcity of raw materials and the necessity for additional Technicolor plants (construction of which is being held up by the shortage of building materials) are the principal factors which will prevent the company from adequately handling foreign business for some time. Prints for foreign markets are at present delayed nine months,

Any expansion, in terms of building or personnel, Kalmus said, will be financed out of capital funds and it is unlikely that the company will have to resort to the $2,500,000 line of credit it has with the Bank of America for these purposes.

Kalmus' salary as president and general manager has been $60,000 a year, plus some 3,300 shares of unissued stock per year, for about the past 10 years, it was reported at the meeting. Previously his salary was $100,000 a year, and the substitution of stock as part of his salary was instituted to conserve funds, it was said.

Kalmus reported that whereas Technicolor labor costs in 1945 averaged about $1.50 per hour, they average approximately $2.00 per hour.

Lang Finishes One

HOLLYWOOD, May 19.—Producer-director Fritz Lang has completed "The Secret Beyond The Door," which he made as a Diana Production for Universal-International release, and has already launched preparations on "Corruption," for which Silvia Richards is writing the screenplay.

Paramount
TRADE SHOW
New York City Territory Only
•
"DEAR RUTH"
From the World-Famous Stage Hit
Starring
WILLIAM HOLDEN • JOAN CAULFIELD
with
Billy De Wolfe • Edward Arnold • Mona Freeman
Mary Phillips • Virginia Welles • Kenny O'Morrison
Produced by Paul Jones • Directed by William D. Russell
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TUESDAY, MAY 27th at 10:30 A. M.
Normandie Theatre
51 East 53rd Street, N. Y. C.





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WHEN Hitler danced at Compiègne in 1940, the newsreel photographer was there . . . as he is almost always there, recording what happens with unique reality and objectivity, wherever history is being made.

Because of him, more people understand more of what goes on in the world—of the significant events in the daily life of mankind. Handling his equipment with skill and ingenuity . . . surmounting the most adverse conditions of light and weather . . . he has an important role in the creation of a better-informed public.

If he is to get the most from this role . . . to give the most to the public . . . the newsreel photographer naturally needs superior film. That's why he prefers to work with members of the large and well-known family of Eastman motion picture and sound films.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL 61. NO. 99 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1947 TEN CENTS

All 20th-Fox Officers Are Reelected

Stockholders Reelect Board of Directors

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox Film Corp., and all other officers were reelected yesterday, following the reelection of 14 directors at the corporation's annual stockholders' meeting held at the home office here.



Spyros P. Skouras

Members of the board reelected for another year include L. Sherman Adams, Robert L. Clarkson, Thomas J. Connors, John R. Dillon, Wilfred J. Eadie, Daniel O. Hastings, Donald A. Henderson, Robert Lehman, William C. Michel, William P. Philips,

(*Continued on page 4*)

20th-Fox Net $5,897,603

Consolidated net profit of $5,897,603, after all charges, for the first quarter ended March 29, was reported here yesterday for 20th Century-Fox and all subsidiaries, including National Theatres and Roxy Theatre, Inc. Included is $400,043 representing net gain on the sale of an investment in theatres in Mexico. After deducting dividends on prior preferred and convertible preferred stocks, the net amounted to $2.07 per share on 2,765,813 shares of common stock outstanding.

The consolidated net reported by the

(*Continued on page 4*)

Disney Productions Profit Is $264,383

Los Angeles, May 20.—Walt Disney Productions' net income after all charges in the 26 weeks ended March 29, 1947, was $264,383, president Roy O. Disney reported today. This was equal, after providing for preferred dividends accumulated during the

(*Continued on page 4*)

Col. Profit $2,935,000

Columbia's net profit, after Federal taxes, for the 39 weeks ended March 29, 1947, was $2,935,000, compared with $2,315,000 for the same period last year, it was announced by Harry Cohn, president, yesterday, through the home office.

This year's profit is equivalent to $4.34 per share of common stock, calculated on the increased amount of common stock which was outstanding on March 29, 1947, some 622,782 shares. The number of shares outstanding on March 30, 1946, was 595,447, when earnings per share amounted to $3.45.

Operating profit for the 1947 period was $4,640,000, and estimated Federal taxes were $1,705,000. The 1946 operating profit totaled $4,275,000, with $1,960,000 for taxes.

Allied Directors Vote on Convention

Allied States will hold a national convention this year, probably in the fall. While directors are being canvassed now by Jack Kirsch, president, on their preferences as to date and place of the meeting, there is considerable sentiment in favor of Chicago as the convention city.

Kirsch, who was in New York yesterday from Chicago on personal business, will leave here today for Washington to attend the scheduled meeting at the White House tomorrow, called by Attorney General Tom Clark, to discuss industry aid for the Freedom Train, which will make a year's tour of the country to exhibit national historical documents.

Exhibitor Leaders to NJ Allied June Meet

Several exhibitor leaders have accepted invitations to attend the New Jersey Allied-sponsored conference of independent theatre owners and testimonial banquet to Jack Kirsch, National Allied president, which will be held at the Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City, June 24-26, E. Thornton Kelley, convention manager, reported here yesterday.

Among those listed as heading delegations from their respective organizations are: Abram F. Myers, Washington; Sidney Samuelson, Philadelphia; Benny Berger, Minneapolis; Meyer Leventhal, Baltimore; Leonard

(*Continued on page 2*)

Recommends U. S. Overseas Program

Washington, May 20.—A House foreign affairs subcommittee, today approved a bill to authorize a State Department overseas information program, including the use of motion pictures.

The group wrote into the original bill an amendment directing the Department to use private agencies insofar as possible. The full committee is expected to approve the bill by the end of the week.

Bar Indecent Novels, Legion Head Urges

That directors of the Motion Picture Association agree among themselves to refrain from purchasing novels and other story material morally questionable in character was suggested here yesterday by the Very Rev. John J. McClafferty, executive secretary of the National Legion of Decency. He said such a measure would constitute a "great step forward" in contributing to the wholesomeness and soundness of motion pictures.

Msgr. McClafferty spoke before the motion picture department of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae at a luncheon here occasioned by the group's 25th anniversary, and marking its 12th year as film reviewing group for the Legion.

It was disclosed at the session that

(*Continued on page 4*)

Ascap Discontinues Top Manager's Post

The board of directors of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers has voted to discontinue, at least temporarily, the office of general manager, which was left vacant by the late John G. Paine.

Affairs of the organization will be supervised by the board through the executive committee, with other executives continuing substantially in present capacities.

Herman Greenberg is in charge of all licensing activities; George A. Hoffman, comptroller, is in charge of accounts, financing and general personnel, while Richard Murray is in charge of foreign matters, all internal statistical departments and public relations.

Herman Finkelstein continues as resident counsel while the law firm of Schwartz and Frohlich remains as general counsel in charge of litigation.

M-G-M Bidding Extended to 80 Situations

Increase of 30, Despite 'Hold the Line' Policy

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has extended its competitive bidding operations to 30 new situations, all of them requested by exhibitors and presumably no alternative to that type of licensing was found feasible. Until approximately a month ago bidding for M-G-M films was conducted in 50 areas.

William F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of distribution, confirmed that when "he last looked into it" bidding was in effect in between 75 and 80 spots. Further investigation showed that the likely number is 80.

M-G-M's general policy is to "hold-the-line" on bidding, expanding the program only where it is considered to be necessary. An authoritative source discloses that the number of theatres active in a bidding procedure averages only two and one-half.

In recent weeks, as previously reported, distributors have found that the volume of exhibitor demands for runs has fallen off greatly.

Revised Bldg. Code Ready

Fully one-third of the printed proposed revision of the New York State standard building code, copies of which are being mailed this week to hundreds of exhibitors and circuit supervisors throughout the state, is applicable to motion picture theatres. As previously stated, public hearings will be held in New York City on June 6; Buffalo, June 9; Rochester, June 10; Syracuse, June 11; Albany, June 12. Theatremen and others are invited to attend the hearings and express their views and offer suggestions on the proposals set up.

The revised code, which, in its final

(*Continued on page 2*)

Northwest MPF Unit Elects Committee

Minneapolis, May 20.—Members of the 17-man committee for the Northwest Motion Picture Foundation who were elected for two-year terms include: Harry French, Charles

(*Continued on page 2*)

Personal Mention

EDWARD A. GOLDEN, independent producer, will leave here for the Coast today following a visit of several months.

•

JULES K. CHAPMAN, Film Classics assistant sales manager, has left for Atlanta for conferences on sales plans with JOHN MANGHAM, exchange head.

•

ED DURWOOD, Kansas-Missouri circuit owner, is in New York from Kansas City.

•

I. ROSENFELD, Simpex Co. president, will leave New York Friday by plane for Europe.

•

WILLIAM WYLER will leave New York for Washington today by Eastern Airlines.

Film Registrations Increase in England

LONDON, May 20.—Some 107 British features, aggregating 603,510 feet, were registered under the Quota Act here compared with 637 foreign features, aggregating 2,628,240 feet during the year ended March 31, 1947, the British Board of Trade reports. This compares with 83 British features and 356 foreign features for the previous year.

There were 195 British short subjects, aggregating 254,116 feet, against 386 foreign shorts, aggregating 414,208 feet. This compares with 175 British shorts and 301 foreign shorts for the previous year.

Allowing for adjustments, the figures show British registration percentages to be 26.94 per cent for feature films and 34.62 per cent for shorts, against prescribed quota requirements of 22½ per cent and 25 per cent, respectively.

Services Tomorrow For Frank Orsatti

HOLLYWOOD, May 20.—Funeral services for Frank Orsatti, 55, pioneer talent agent, who died yesterday of a heart attack, will be held Thursday morning at the Church of the Good Shepherd, at Beverly Hills. Surviving are his brothers, Victor, Ernest and Alfred; his father, Morris, and two sisters, Mrs. Stella Burress and Mrs. Carmen Cosgriff.

Born in Philadelphia, Orsatti came here as a child. He became a talent agent in 1930.

3rd House for Premiere

World premiere of Eagle-Lion's "Repeat Performance" at Zanesville, O., tomorrow has been increased to a three-theatre opening, A. W. Schwalberg, E-L vice-president and sales manager, announced here yesterday. The Quimby, Liberty and Weller theatres will house the film.

Jackson Park Appeal Arguments Heard

CHICAGO, May 20.—Arguments in an appeal from an injunction issued in the Jackson Park anti-trust suit against the five major distributors and the Balaban and Katz and Warner Theatre circuits were heard today by a panel comprising Federal Judges Major, Sparks and Minton in the U. S. Court of Appeals here. No decision was made.

Although $360,000 damages have been affirmed by the Supreme Court, the defendants are appealing Federal Judge Igoe's original decree on the basis that there was no finding of fact to warrant changes in film distribution, length of "loop" playing time, elimination of "dead" periods and prohibition of price-fixing.

Rank Heads Board Of Canada's Odeon

J. Arthur Rank was elected a director and chairman of the board of Odeon Theatres of Canada, Ltd., at a board meeting held yesterday in Toronto, it was announced here by Robert S. Benjamin, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, Inc. It is the first time that Rank has personally held office in that Canadian theatre group.

Earl Lawson was reelected president of Canadian Odeon and also a member of the board. The following were reelected board members: John Davis, D. C. Coleman, J. S. Duncan, Leonard Brockington and George Peters. H. P. Green was elected to replace George Beeston.

Johnston Praises Casey's Labor Work

WASHINGTON, May 20. — Pat Casey's retirement will be a great loss to the industry, MPA president Eric Johnston declared here today.

Johnston said Casey has made "notable contributions to the welfare of all in the industry and can be proud of his achievements."

The MPA president said Casey will finish labor negotiations in which he is presently engaged and will be available in the future as a consultant. Charles Boren replaces Casey in the studio labor post.

Hospital Contribution

BALTIMORE, May 20.—The Variety Club has contributed $3,000 to finance a year's occupational therapy for crippled children at the Kernan Hospital. Chief Barker Frederick C. Schangerger, Jr., and Lauritz Garman, chairman of the club's welfare committee made the presentation to the hospital, which was founded by a theatrical man, James L. Kernan, 52 years ago.

'Ruth' Premiere May 29

Major Gen. Spencer B. Atin, Chief Signal Corp Officer of the Army, will be among the guests at the world premiere of Paramount's "Dear Ruth," to be held at Reade's Mayfair Theatre in Asbury Park, N. J., on May 29. The premiere will mark the Mayfair's 20th anniversary.

Ampa Has $5,000 In Its Treasury

Profits accruing to the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers from its 30th annual dinner-dance, held on April 23, at the Hotel Astor, here, were $4,500, "which insures a healthy financial condition for AMPA and its Relief Fund, with total assets in excess of $5,000," declares Arnold Stoltz, who yesterday assumed the presidency of the organization at a luncheon-meeting at the Town Hall Club, here. Members of the AMPA Relief Fund committee will meet during the summer to discuss administration of AMPA funds by the Motion Picture Foundation, Stoltz added. He succeeds Rutgers Neilson as president.

Next meeting, to be held in September, will be given over to a discussion of the 16mm. film market, with David A. Bader acting as member-guest master-of-ceremonies.

UA Films To Occupy 6 Houses Next Week

Five United Artists releases will occupy six New York houses with the scheduled opening of three more pictures between Friday and the following Thursday. Hunt Stromberg's "Dishonored Lady" will open at the Broadway Theatre on Friday, Sam Coslow's "Copacabana" will open at the Criterion on May 28 and Charles R. Rogers' "The Fabulous Dorsey's" will open at the Loew's State on the following day.

Other UA releases now showing here are Enterprise's "The Other Love," at the Rivoli and "Carnegie Hall" at the Winter Garden and Park Avenue theatres.

Revised Bldg. Code

(*Continued from page* 1)

form, is expected to set a pattern for similar codes in other parts of the country, deals with both new constructions and existing structures. It was drafted during the winter of 1945-46 and was unanimously recommended by an advisory committee of 18, appointed by State Industrial Commissioner Corsi. Representing the industry on the committee were Henry Anderson, Paramount; Louis Lazar, Schine Circuit; Theodore Jung, Loew's; Martin Tracy, Century Circuit; Richard S. Hayes, IATSE projectionists' Local No. 650, and the late Glenn S. Humphrey, IATSE projectionists' Local No. 337.

Cities which will be unaffected by the new code, by virtue of having bureaus of buildings charged with enforcing local codes, are: New York, Buffalo, Rochester, Albany, Elmira, Long Beach, Mount Vernon, Newburgh, New Rochelle, Niagara Falls, Schenectady, Syracuse, Troy, Utica, White Plains, Yonkers, and possibly Binghampton.

The revised code, first in 25 years, calls for more rigid enforcement of five regulations and will establish new standards for stairways, doors, sprinkler heads, storage rooms, projection booths, etc. Present booths will remain unaltered.

Newsreel Parade

SPOTLIGHTED in all current newsreels is the Variety Club's presentation of The Humanitarian Award to James F. Byrnes. Other events covered include the air show over New York and the celebration of "I Am an American" day. Complete contents follow:

MGVIETONE NEWS, No. 76—Clubs honor James F. Byrnes for his peace efforts. New commercial air record set. Walter Winchell spurs cancer drive. Woman rescues boy from drowning and finds he is her son. Chimps of St. Louis Zoo in Wild West show. Golf tournament to help the drive against juvenile delinquency.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 274—Fleet of superforts invades New York. Contest aids Runyon Cancer Fund. Variety Clubs honor ex-Secretary Byrnes. New citizens welcomed on "I Am an American" day. Paris school makes models toe the mark. St. Louis Zoo's famous chimp troupe.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 77—Stunt pilot risks neck for new thrill. Slogan contest aids Runyon Cancer Fund. Golf: celebrities swing. Variety Clubs honor James F. Byrnes with Humanitarian Award. B29's raid New York.

RKO PATHE, No. 79—B-29 fleet over New York. Memphis Cotton Carnival. James F. Byrnes gets Variety Clubs' Humanitarian Award. Labor protest parade in California. Australia banana crop. Celebrities in golf tournament.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 40—Presentation of Variety Clubs' award to James F. Byrnes. Thousands celebrate "I Am an American" day in New York. Cotton festival in Memphis. Traditional festival at Holland, Mich., at tulip time.

Northwest MPF Unit

(*Continued from page* 1)

Winchell, Eddie Ruben, Bill Elson, Ben Berger, Art Anderson, Roy Miller and Walter Palm. Named to serve for one year were Ben Friedman, Harold Field, Tom Burke, Ernie Peaslee, Henry Greene, Jr., Leo Peterson, Maitland Frosch, Bob Workman and T. E. Mortensen.

The permanent chairman will be selected at a luncheon at the Nicollet Hotel here Friday, Stanley Kane, North Central Allied executive director and member of the MPF national publicity and promotion committee, said today.

Goldenson Says MPF Bolsters Company Welfare Program

ALBANY, N. Y., May 20.—Asserting that the Motion Picture Foundation would not supplant the present pension or welfare systems of individual companies but rather supplement them, Leonard Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatre Service Corp., today dwelt on the vital importance of the trade press in publicizing the MPF's work. He added that every company should have its own pension or welfare plan.

NJ Allied June Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

Goldberg, Boston; Jesse L. Stern, New York; Van Nomikos, Chicago; James Papayanakos, Gouverneur, N. Y.; Ralph S. Pasho, Naugatuck, Conn., and H. W. Robertson, Covington, Va.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



MAN FINISHES JOB!

The Star beloved by every ticket-buyer in America has completed the greatest attraction in his notable career, M-G-M's "THE HUCKSTERS." CLARK GABLE is co-starred with the most publicized new personality of years DEBORAH KERR and together they have brought to exciting life this love story which topped the best-seller list for months. Completed! Previewed! An M-G-Mint! Just the start of an amazing line-up "M-G-M's Biggest Hit Parade!"

M-G-M presents
CLARK GABLE
DEBORAH KERR
SYDNEY GREENSTREET
ADOLPHE MENJOU
AVA GARDNER
KEENAN WYNN
EDWARD ARNOLD
in
"THE HUCKSTERS"
Screen Play by Luther Davis
Adaptation by Edward Chodorov and George Wells
Based on the Novel by Frederic Wakeman
Directed by JACK CONWAY
Produced by ARTHUR HORNBLOW, Jr.
A Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

"Love That Picture!"



20th-Fox Reelects

(*Continued from page* 1)

Seton Porter, Murray Silverstone, Skouras and Darryl F. Zanuck.

Elected with Skouras were Michel, executive vice-president; Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production; Connors, vice-president in charge of sales; Silverstone, vice-president; Joseph H. Moskowitz, vice-president; Henderson, treasurer and secretary; Eadie, comptroller and assistant treasurer; Francis T. Kelly, assistant treasurer; Fred L. Metzler, assistant treasurer; Read B. Simonson, assistant treasurer; C. Elwood McCartney, assistant comptroller; J. Harold Lang, assistant secretary; George F. Wasson, Jr., assistant secretary, and William Werner, assistant secretary. While Henderson was reelected treasurer, he was newly elected secretary to fill the vacant post of the late Felix A. Jenkins.

In a reply to a stockholder's question, Skouras said that box-office attendance at National Theatre Corp. houses in April fell off 10 to 12 per cent as compared with the same month last year, but that the decline in dollar income for the same period was only two per cent.

Skouras said that the company has 13 films prepared or completed, representing an investment of $31,500,000. While at the Coast, Skouras saw "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," "Bob, Son of Battle," and "Mother Wore Tights." In production for the rest of the year, he added, are "Foxes of Harrow," "Nightmare Alley," "Daisy Kenyon" and "Gentleman's Agreement."

Skouras revealed that "Miracle on 34th Street" will open at the Roxy Theatre here in two weeks. He also said that if conditions remain as at present, the new "Forever Amber" and "Captain from Castile" may be roadshown. "Amber" will open at the New York Roxy on Nov. 1, he said, and will be shown on the West Coast, "from Vancouver to San Diego" at the same time in order to determine general release policy. "Captain from Castile" will open in November in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, also to determine release policy.

20th-Fox Net

(*Continued from page* 1)

corporation for the first quarter of 1946 was $6,241,953, which, after deducting dividends, amounted to $2.53 per share. Profit for the fourth quarter of 1946 was $6,399,720.

Gross income for the first quarter of 1947 was $48,944,024, compared with $46,390,305 for the first quarter of 1946. Consolidated net profit before Federal taxes and minority interests for the first 1947 quarter was $10,517,849, compared with a consolidated net, before taxes and minority interests, of $12,339,022 for the first 1946 quarter.

20th-Fox Declares 75-Cent Dividend on Common Stock

The board of directors of 20th Century-Fox yesterday declared a quarterly cash dividend of 75 cents per share on the outstanding common stock, payable June 30.

Also declared was a quarterly cash dividend of $1.12½ per share on the outstanding prior preferred stock, and a quarterly cash dividend of 37½ cents per share on outstanding convertible preferred stock, both payable June 30.

Bar Indecent Novels

(*Continued from page* 1)

Rev. Patrick J. Masterson, heretofore assistant executive secretary of the Legion, has become acting secretary replacing Msgr. McClafferty while on leave of absence and assigned to the Catholic University in Washington.

Msgr. McClafferty pointed to an increase in the number of Class B (Objectionable in Part) picture classifications, to the highest point since establishment of the Legion and coupled this with the admonition that "we must move forward strongly and prudently."

He expressed concern over "relaxations" of the Production Code and the recent amendment allowing the depiction of narcotic traffic on the screen, deplored some film companies' acquisitions of indecent novels which, he said, are followed by "placing the burden of having the pictures come out 'lily white' on the Production Code Administration."

Mrs. James F. Looram, chairman of the IFCA's motion picture department, presided at the luncheon-meeting and introduced dais guests.

Archbishop Francis J. McIntyre congratulated the membership on 25 years of accomplishment, "not in a work that has taken on the character of a reformer, but one which has taken on the character of right thinking American spirit."

Hal Hode, executive of Columbia, described the Legion's and the reviewing group's work as having benefitted the industry as well as the public.

Austin Keough, vice-president and general counsel of Paramount, offered congratulations on achievements to date, adding: "I know you and your successors will go on doing the same grand, helpful and necessary work."

Martin Quigley spoke of the responsibility of the motion picture department of the IFCA and observed that the late Patrick Cardinal Hayes would be gratified with the results of the invitation which, 12 years ago, he extended to the department to provide the moral estimates of product for the Legion. "You have made many important contribution in all matters involving moral considerations," Quigley said.

Others on the dais included Rev. Brendan Larnen, assistant executive secretary of the Legion; John J. O'Connor, vice-president of Universal; Arthur De Bra, Motion Picture Association; A. W. Smith, 20th Century-Fox; William Kelly, Loew's, and Francis Harmon, MPA.

Disney Nets $264,383

(*Continued from page* 1)

period, but not paid, to 38 cents a share on 652,840 common shares outstanding, and represents a large increase over the corresponding period's loss of $22,261.

"In our business the results for short periods frequently are distorted by the timing of feature picture releases," Disney stated.

Total income for the first 26 weeks of 1947 was $2,984,097, an increase of 63 per cent over the $1,832,318 recorded in the corresponding weeks of 1946.



...doctor, lawyer, Indian chief...

'FUN ON A WEEKEND'

no one's gonna have a beef **everybody's going to have**

And you will **everyday** you play this Andrew Stone hit from **UA**

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 100 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, MAY 22, 1947 TEN CENTS

MPA Studies British Films' Playing Time

Directors Discuss Rank's Plea for Better Deals

Board members of the Motion Picture Association met here yesterday with Eric A. Johnston, president, in a discussion of international trade with particular consideration given to J. Arthur Rank's declaration of a week ago that "we will have to have more playing time" for British pictures in the U. S. market.

The meeting is believed to have been the first concerted effort in that direction and will be followed next week by a series of conferences between Rank and Johnston on the Coast. Johnston will leave Washington for Hollywood this weekend.

Last week Rank declared he had

(*Continued on page 5*)

Argentine Quota Law Is 'Imminent'

Adoption of a 50 per cent quota on foreign film imports by the Argentine government was described here yesterday as "imminent" by Ignacio Kronenberg, a leading independent distributor of that country, who has arrived in New York from Buenos Aires. Legislation for such a quota is now before the Argentine Congress, and although President Juan Peron is

(*Continued on page 5*)

ABPC Aims at World Market Through WB

London, May 21. — Associated British Pictures Corp., in which Warner Brothers has a 37½ per cent interest, is embarking on a new long-term "star-making" policy, thereby hoping, through Warner distribution, to achieve a world market. Last January, Jack Warner disclosed plans for ABPC to produce six pictures which will be shown "throughout the Warner circuit in America and all other theatres in the U. S. and Canada which the WB distribution organization services."

Mochrie to Preside At RKO Convention

RKO Radio's 16th annual sales meeting will be held July 7-9 in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here. It will be presided over by Robert Mochrie, vice-president and general sales manager, and it will be the first national RKO sales convention to be conducted by Mochrie since assuming his present post on Feb. 7, 1946.

Three sales divisions to be represented include the Western and Eastern divisions, headed by Nat Levy and Walter Branson, respectively, and the North-South division, headed by Charles Boasberg. District managers, branch managers, salesmen and field men will attend from all of the company's exchange centers in the U. S. and Canada. About 500 delegates are expected

Winners of the 1947 "Ned Depinet Drive" will be announced at the meeting, and prizes will be awarded by Depinet, RKO executive vice-president.

Memphis Meet Mon. For Foundation Unit

MEMPHIS, May 21.—A meeting of Variety Club Tent 20 is set for May 26 to form a Memphis committee for a Motion Picture Foundation unit. The meeting was called by Chief Barker Herb Kohn. M. A. Lightman has sent letters to distributor representatives and to exhibitors urging that they attend.

Postponement of ATA Convention Favored

Further postponement of the first convention of the American Theatres Association since its organization in St. Louis in April, 1946, is favored by a good number of the board members whose views on the subject have been solicited by New York headquarters. Unsettled conditions within the industry because of the New York anti-trust decision and pending appeals is given as the principal reason.

Lewis Quits UA for SRO Post in Europe

Louis Lewis will take charge of all financial and related matters of the Selznick Releasing Organization in the United Kingdom and on the Continent, it was announced here yesterday by Neil F. Agnew, SRO president.

Lewis has resigned as director and secretary of United Artists Corp., London, and affiliated companies, with which he has been connected for over 12 years. Before joining United Artists, Lewis was an accountant in the Paris office of Price, Waterhouse and Co.

"The Web"

[*Universal-International*] — Tip Top Entertainment

WITH William Bendix, Vincent Price, Ella Raines and Edmond O'Brien co-starred against an admirably balanced cast, "The Web," first Jerry Bresler production for U-I, and the first screen directorial undertaking by Broadway's Michael Gordon, rates high among the year's best melodramas. Interest holds as tight as a fiddle string from start to finish, with all principals turning in top portrayals. The picture may be expected to prosper as it plays.

The screenplay, by William Bowers and Bertram Millhauser, opens in humorous vein, with O'Brien, a struggling attorney, hiring out to Price, millionaire industrialist, as bodyguard for a fortnight. Almost immediately he saves his employer's life by slaying an ex-convict assailant, and then finds himself under suspicion of murder as policeman Bendix, his personal friend, digs into the dead man's past and fails to discover the million dollars which he is supposed to have stolen. Miss Raines, Price's secretary, finally decides to assist O'Brien in sifting the background, and both are accused of a second murder committed by Price. In contrast to most melodrama, this one lets the audience know the guilty party, but builds suspense by making a case against the innocent seem too tight to be upset.

Production is superb in every respect, from balanced dialogue to richly accoutered sets, the whole equaling tip-top entertainment.

Running time, 91 minutes. General audience classification. May release.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Fabian Group In $15 Million Bid for U. A.

First of Boston Would Finance, If Owners Sell

The First National Bank of Boston, represented by Serge Semenenko, is reliably reported prepared to finance acquisition of United Artists by a syndicate headed by S. H. Fabian, president of the Eastern Seaboard circuit bearing his name, to the tune of $15,000,000.

Of this total, $10,000,000 would apply to the purchase of the two-thirds interest held by Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin and to the final one-third now held in the company's treasury. The remaining $5,000,000 would be set up as a revolving fund under an arrangement which would make it possible for UA, as distributor, to participate in production financing.

Thus, the Fabian negotiations are not cold. But whether or not the Pickford-Chaplin control will be available for final sale is highly uncertain. Both partners, down through

(*Continued on page 5*)

To Report Later On Industry Series

HOLLYWOOD, May 21.—Representatives of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, the American Theatres Association, Allied States and the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, who met here this week with producers, talent guild representatives and Mo-

(*Continued on page 5*)

Johnston Trip May Bar Tax Testimony

WASHINGTON, May 21.—With Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, slated to be on the West Coast next Wednesday and Thursday —the days set aside by the House Ways and Means Committee for testimony on admission taxes—plans to

(*Continued on page 5*)

In This Issue

"Copacabana" is reviewed on page 4; "Moss Rose" and "Dick Tracy's Dilemma" on page 7. Key city reports are on page 6.

Personal Mention

BEN KALMENSON, Warner general sales manager, and HARRY M. KALMINE, Warner Theatres head, have returned here from the Coast.

•

BEN WASHER, new Paramount home office publicity manager, will be hosted by his former associates, JAMES A. MULVEY and LYNN FARNOL, at a luncheon at Chateaubriand today with trade press representatives as guests.

•

FREDERIC ULLMAN, JR., RKO Pathe president, and the "This Is America" staff have been cited by the American College Public Relations Association "for distinguished service in the interpretation of higher education."

•

LEONARD HIRSCH, home office assistant to RUDY BERGER, M-G-M Southern sales manager, is recuperating at home from pneumonia.

•

VERNON C. CALDWELL, Walt Disney Productions' public relations director, and HANK PORTER, studio artist, are here from the Coast.

•

ARNOLD GRANT, United Artists board member, is recuperating at White Plains Hospital, N. Y., after an emergency appendectomy.

•

JACK ELLIS, United Artists' New York district manager, returned here yesterday from Albany.

•

HAROLD DUNN, Producers Releasing Corp. assistant general sales manager, has returned here from Chicago.

•

JACK LAVIN, Walt Disney Productions studio executive, left for Hollywood from New York yesterday.

•

ARTHUR JEFFREY, Eagle-Lion exploitation chief here, is recuperating at home from an illness.

Register 20th-Fox Stock with SEC

PHILADELPHIA, May 21.—A registration statement covering 234,300 shares of common stock to be offered for the account of 24 option holders was filed here today by 20th Century-Fox with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The statement disclosed that Darryl F. Zanuck, production vice-president, will offer 100,000 of the shares which he acquired on an option at $13 a share when the market price was 10⅝ high. Spyros P. Skouras, company president, is the second largest holder with an option for 70,000 shares at a price of $24.25. He has exercised the option already on 42,000 of the shares.

The options are those in a total of 240,000 granted executives of the company, and of which 5,700 have lapsed.

The offering would be made at an undetermined time at prices in accordance with market prices at that time, it is understood.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

THERE was a very special and significant meeting of topnotchers held at the Johnston office yesterday. Nothing was said about it publicly, least of all from the Motion Picture Association which maintained singular silence. But from around the town—the birds whispering, etc. —came the word, inconclusively evasive as it was, that the palaver dealt generally with "the international situation."

As far as it went, this was entirely correct. It failed to go far enough because no discussion of the international situation possibly could be all-embracing these days without particular attention to the United Kingdom and a man named Joseph Arthur Rank.

■

The story behind the meeting is this:

Rank's heralded visit to this country — the second since he strode to celluloid power in Britain—was signalized by many functions. As important as any among them was the dinner thrown for him by Eric Johnston. It was an exclusive affair. The press was barred, the attendance limited, the discussion off-the-record.

That night, the always pleasant Rank never changed his demeanor. But some of the discerning ones present sensed a change in his approach. That approach has been described in terms of the shakedown cruise being over. Rank declared in about this language: "Gentlemen, we are a friendly competitor now in this market. I suggest you might as well recognize the facts."

■

The facts which Rank wants recognized are that he must have more playing time for his product on American screens. Publicly, he declares he is satisfied with the progress rolled up by British films here insofar as this progress may be computed. It isn't much. Publicly, however, he has implied quite clearly without ever saying it that this progress is an interim happenstance against which any tally of the situation—in ultimate—is not to be computed.

What this boils down to in plain and ordinary is simple enough, and it would be well for the industry at large to understand it. Rank may be content with progress thus far, but has no intention of accepting it as the best he will receive at the hands of the American industry.

■

His reasons are several, not all of them new. Unofficial as it may be, there is an assortment of reasons to accept him as the British Government's emissary in its avowed cause of a world-wide place in the affairs of motion pictures. This, in turn, has to do with Britain's pride as a nation. To it must be added its conviction that it deserves an emphatic niche in the celluloid sun as a matter of course and merit. Also there must be taken into full realization its present financial condition—the American loan rapidly losing the race against the inflationary price curve and a consequent sharpening need for more and more dollars.

Rank's reasons inevitably tie to the flight of funds from Britain to the States to the tune of approximately $70,000,000 a year in American film rentals; to his position, which is also the position of the British industry in and out of his embrace, that there has to be a reasonable measure of reciprocity on the part of the American industry.

Figures being what they are, Rank knows what American companies are doing in England. Of course, he has the complete knowledge of what share of this business traces to rental flowing out of his own theatre circuits. Of course, he has unchallengeable information of what his films have grossed in this market. Out of it develops his dissatisfaction over dollar return here, very particularly where the five major circuits are concerned.

Good or otherwise as may be determined by the flow of events, nevertheless it becomes understandable from his viewpoint why he told a major executive whose interests are formidable in production, distribution and exhibition prior to a departure west in Robert Young's private Pullman: "You have a decision to make. What it will be, of course, must be of your own making. I should like to emphasize, however, that you cannot escape making one." Innocuous enough as to verbiage, there may be interpolated a number of things. For our part, and gratuitously offered, we interpolate a lot.

■

Many more drifts and currents than space will allow play a part in this situation. It is not without significance, for example, that Barney Balaban devoted many hours to a discussion of British pictures at Arrowhead Springs, Calif., recently. Present were most of the Paramount theatre partners who heard Balaban say in this intent, but not necessarily in this exact language:

"We are faced here with an industry problem. As part of the industry you must accept your proportion of the responsibility. British pictures must get more playing time in this market. We cannot afford to be confronted with a situation under which our revenue from England is endangered, our funds frozen or quota restrictions tightened.

"If we lose substantial portions of the revenue from Britain, we will be faced with the need to cut the quality of our product made in Hollywood. If we have to do this, your grosses will be affected."

Talk Settlement of Two Chicago Suits

CHICAGO, May 21.—Hearing date for the Riverside and Middle States Theatres anti-trust suits, scheduled before Federal Judge Michael Igoe, has been postponed until May 26. Although a delay was granted to provide counsel with additional time for brief preparations, it is understood that settlement proceedings are continuing and that there may be an agreement reached during the week.

Coast Luncheon for Rank; Johnston Host

HOLLYWOOD, May 21.—J. Arthur Rank, visiting the U. S. and Canada, from England, and Robert R. Young of the Young film and railroad interests, will be honor guests at a luncheon at the Beverly Hills Hotel on May 29, to be given by MPA president Eric Johnston. Production heads will attend.

U. S. Information Bill Advances in House

WASHINGTON, May 21.—The House Foreign Affairs Committee today approved the bill to authorize a State Department overseas information program, including provision for films. Sponsors of the bill hope to have it on the floor of the House by the end of next week.

William Schneider To Donahue & Coe

William Schneider of Paramount's home office advertising department will, on June 9, join Donahue and Coe, advertising agency here, as assistant to Lloyd Seidman, vice-president in charge of theatre advertising.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

"A BOY AND HIS DOG"



A TWO-REEL WARNER SHORT

BASED ON THE STORY THAT WON THE O. HENRY MEMORIAL AWARD

and an OSCAR!



TWO OF THE THREE ACADEMY AWARDS FOR SHORT SUBJECTS AGAIN THIS YEAR WENT TO WARNER SHORTS

Now Released

2-REEL: "A BOY AND HIS DOG" IN TECHNICOLOR

1-REEL: "FACING YOUR DANGER" IN TECHNICOLOR

with HARRY DAVENPORT · BILLY SHEFFIELD · and FLEETA · directed by LE ROY PRINZ · produced by GORDON HOLLINGSHEAD

DOROTHY ADAMS • RUSSEL SIMPSON • EDDIE WALLER • ORIGINAL STORY BY SAMUEL A. DERIEUX • SCREEN PLAY BY SAUL ELKINS • MUSIC BY WILLIAM LAVA

Large 16mm Growth Is Seen by Reisman

LONDON, May 21. — A widespread early development in the 16mm. field is foreseen by Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution for RKO Radio, who points out here that countries like China and the Philippines, whose communities are too impoverished to support 35mm. theatres will welcome cheaper 16mm. shows. Reisman visualizes 5,000 new 16mm. theatres for China alone.

He expressed satisfaction in the joint J. Arthur Rank-RKO Radio picture, "So Well Remembered," and in Rene Clair's "Golden Silence," with Maurice Chevalier. Reisman disclosed that he had a talk in New York with Rank regarding the next joint production, which is as yet undecided, but shooting is scheduled to start at Denham studios in September.

Reisman will leave for France at the weekend and will return here in three weeks, leaving for America in June.

Open Three Houses, To Construct Two

Openings of several theatres in Connecticut and Massachusetts have been reported. In June, the Strand, summer house at Sound View, Conn., will be opened by Mrs. Margaret Glackin. In Sutton, Mass., a new open-air theatre, the Motor Inn, has been opened by Wilfred Bernard.

At Holyoke, Mass., the Holyoke Theatre has been reopened by the E. M. Loew circuit. A recent fire closed the house. In Lunenburg, Mass., a license has been granted for an open-air drive-in theatre to Alfred Mellor and Alfred Bergeron. In Fall River, Mass., authority to construct an open-air theatre has been granted to Salvatore L. Romano.

Winters in Chan Series

HOLLYWOOD, May 21.—Roland Winters, New York stage actor, today was selected by James S. Burkett, Monogram producer, to succeed the late Sidney Toler as Charlie Chan in that film series.

Newfield Recuperating

HOLLYWOOD, May 21.—Director Sam Newfield, who underwent a cranial operation last weekend, was pronounced today "out of danger."

Review

"Copacabana"

(*Sam Coslow—United Artists*)

PRODUCER and song-writer Sam Coslow has hit the musical comedy bell solidly in "Copacabana," a glossy, tuneful package of mad-cap merriment. It has a winning cast, topped by zany Groucho Marx (with a home-grown mustache and minus his brothers), eruptive Carmen Miranda, and popular crooner Andy Russell, lately of radio's "Hit Parade." Further earmarking it for successful selling is the fact that its story spotlight is trained on the widely-heard-of New York nightlife rendezvous of the title (a Hollywood-set version, that is), replete with chorus beauties and offering a touch of "authenticity" with the brief appearance of some well-known Broadway columnists and editors. The "sneak-preview" audience at Loew's 72nd Street Theatre, here, heartily laughed its way through the escapades of Groucho and Carmen (who make a grand comedy team) and otherwise demonstrated a warm appreciation of the proceedings.

A snappy, slap-happy screenplay by Laslo Vadnay, Alan Boretz and Howard Harris, makes room for nine original songs, written in the main by Coslow, but also including the composing talents of Bert Kalmar, Harry Ruby and Edward Ward. Some are aimed straight at the bobby-soxers by Russell, a few get Miss Miranda's pyrotechnic treatment, and most are supported by sumptuous production effects and exotic dancing sequences. Groucho cavorts through one, and Gloria Jean sings another. This reviewer picks as the more appealing: "Stranger Things Have Happened," "Je Vous Aime," "More and More," "Let's Do the Copacabana," and "Go West, Young Man," one or more of which are likely to wind up on the "Hit Parade."

The plot is many-faceted, but the principal line is this: Groucho, fickle fiance and agent of Carmen, sells her as *two* acts—a Brazilian "bombshell" and a veiled French songstress—to unsuspecting nightclub owner Steve Cochran. She has to hustle—but plenty!—to perform at two separate points in the club at almost the same time. Meanwhile, Cochran falls for the mysterious French singer, Groucho gets jealous, and Gloria Jean, Cochran's lovesick secretary, also gets jealous. When complications become too great to manage, singer Fifi conveniently "disappears." Groucho is accused of her "murder!" There is more, of course, and all too funny to fully describe. Alfred E. Green directed. Vadnay wrote the original story.

Running time, 92 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, May 30.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

MGM Field Meet in Cincinnati Opens

CINCINNATI, May 21.—Approximately 30 exchange managers, bookers and office managers East of the Mississippi River, in addition to home office executives, are attending the first M-G-M meeting here in over a year, at the Netherland Plaza. Today was given over to general discussions on future exchange operations and streamlining exchanges.

Speakers were Alan F. Cummings, in charge of exchange operations; Harold Postman, his assistant, and Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer of Loew's. William G. Brennan, in charge of the checking department, is holding a two-day meeting with field supervisors to discuss future policy. Home office executives will leave for a Denver meeting after conclusion of the three-day meeting here.

Simons Will Address Montana Exhibitors

M. L. Simons, comparatively new assistant to H. M. Richey, and editor of M-G-M's sales publication, *The Distributor,* will make his first appearance before an exhibitor group in the new post at the Montana Theatres Association convention at Boulder Springs, Mont., May 28-29.

Simons is now in Cincinnati attending the M-G-M office managers' meeting at the Netherlands Plaza Hotel. From there he will go to Denver and for two days attend the second of office managers' meeting at the Cosmopolitan Hotel, from which point he will leave for Boulder Springs.

Legion of Honor Awarded to Wyler

WASHINGTON, May 21.—William Wyler, director, was today awarded the Legion of Honor by Lieut. Gen. Ira Eaker, commander of the Army Air Forces, for his work on the wartime picture, "Memphis Belle," as well as other contributions to the air force picture program. Wyler was a lieutenant-colonel with the Eighth Air Force during the war, assigned to directing films.

Owen Speaks in Albany

ALBANY, N. Y., May 21.—Hugh Owen, Paramount Eastern division manager, and A. M. Kane, district manager, addressed exchange employes here today on the "35th Year of Leadership" drive, opening Aug. 31.

SGP Signs Hirliman

HOLLYWOOD, May 21.—George A. Hirliman has signed to produce seven pictures in the next two years for Screen Guild Productions. He will start in September and all the films will be made in the East.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

TRADE SHOWINGS

of ROBERT and RAYMOND HAKIM'S presentation of

"THE LONG NIGHT"

ALBANY
Fox Projection Room, 1052 Broadway, Albany, N. Y.

BUFFALO
Fox Projection Room, 290 Franklin St., Buffalo, N. Y.

BOSTON
RKO Projection Room, 122 Arlington St., Boston, Mass.

NEW HAVEN
Fox Projection Room, 40 Whiting St., New Haven, Ct.

ALL SHOWINGS AT 2:30 P.M., WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

2 Coast Locals to Be Polled on Strike

HOLLYWOOD, May 21.—Screen Set Designers Local No. 1421, which will meet with a labor committee representing the major producers tomorrow in exploratory collective bargaining talks, and Painters' local No. 644, which attended a similar meeting three weeks ago, will be asked, "Do you approve making the best possible settlement at this time and returning to work?" at a full membership meeting here Monday night. Herbert Sorrell, president of the striking Confere of Studio Unions and business ag of Local No. 644, will present the question, a question which received a negative response two months ago from the painters. The carpenters union, only other numerically strong union still on strike, will not participate in Monday's meeting.

Chicago Testimonial For Jack Flynn

CHICAGO, May 21.—Jack Flynn, who is retiring as Midwestern sales manager for Loew's, Inc., will be honored by leaders of the local trade at a testimonial dinner late next month, following his return from a Wisconsin fishing trip.

A committee headed by Ed Brunell will meet here tomorrow to make plans for the dinner. Members of the committee are: James Coston, John Balaban, Arthur Schoenstadt, Edwin Silverman, Jack Kirsch, Thomas Flannery, S. J. Gregory, W. E. Banford, B. J. Lourie, J. H. Stevens, M. M. Gottlieb, Will Baker, A. J. Shumow and Tom Gilliam.

Sennett Films Slated For Release in June

Remembering the 50th anniversary of the grant to Thomas A. Edison of a patent for the first motion picture camera, an "Americana Comedy Film Classics Series,"—modernized review of Mack Sennett's comedies—will be released next month, it was announced here yesterday by J. J. Balaber, editor of the series for Grand International Pictures.

"Nickelodeon Chuckles," a synchronized two-reeler, will be the first release, opening on June 18 at the Trans-Lux Theatre here. The series was culled from some 1,300,000 feet of film to form 26 shorts.

Broidy-Davis Conference

HOLLYWOOD, May 21.—Steve Broidy, head of Monogram and Allied Artists, will leave here tomorrow for conferences with John Davis, J. Arthur Rank executive, regarding Canadian distribution of Monogram and Allied product.

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Egypt Studies Ban On Dubbed Films

By IBRAHIM ZEIN

JAFFA, EGYPT, May 15 (By Airmail).—Protection of the local film industry from dubbing is currently being studied by the government. The Minister of Social Welfare will publish a resolution explaining the government's point of view.

The Union of Syndicates, composed actors and musicians, has published the following warning: No professional actor, player or musician may participate in dubbing a picture in Arabic, except Turkish pictures. No studios, by order of the Syndicates and Producers' Union, may participate in dubbing in Arabic under penalty of boycott. No theatres may show any foreign picture dubbed in Arabic. If it does, the theatre will be boycotted and Egyptian product withheld from it. By law, all foreign pictures shown in Egypt must be subtitled in Arabic.

A studio is being built in Bagdad, Iraq, for making Arabic pictures. British technicians are assisting.

Tax Testimony

(*Continued from page* 1)

present the MPA position on reduction of admission taxes have run into a snag.

MPA officials are undecided whether to have someone substitute for Johnston, merely file a written brief or try again to have hearings postponed. Several exhibitor groups are understood to favor postponement in order to obtain a more adequate canvass of exhibitor sentiment. Meanwhile, the committee staff has tentatively scheduled Wednesday as the date for the appearance of Ted Gamble, representing the American Theatres Association.

Industry Series

(*Continued from page* 1)

tion Picture Association representative Edward Cheyfitz to "discuss the possibility of producing a series of short subjects to put the industry's story on the screen," will report to their organizations on views expressed at the meeting and will submit a report of conclusions later.

The meeting, under the chairmanship of N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO, explored the proposal extensively, it was said, but took no action. However, it is believed that the general attitude was favorable.

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Argentine Quota

(*Continued from page* 1)

a strong opponent, intensified supporting pressure being exerted by the Argentine industry is regarded as virtually assuring passage, Kronenberg said.

Thill calls for importation there of only 325 foreign films annually, that figure being arrived at on the basis of the 650 imported during 1946. About 70 per cent of the imports are from America. The bill would exempt 16mm. pictures.

Meanwhile, Kronenberg said, production of films in Argentina has increased by nearly 50 per cent in a year. Last year 45 features were produced domestically; this year, 80 are scheduled. The increase, he said, is due principally to the replacement of worn-out production equipment with American-made items.

Kronenberg, who is also a distributor of NATKO 16mm. projectors in Argentina, has been requested by his government to purchase here a number of such projection machines which the government will use in a stepped-up 16mm. educational program, he said, adding that he expects to be able to gather ultimately some 2,000 projectors for that purpose. Kronenberg imports a large number of American 35mm. and 16mm. films yearly, having an inventory now of about 600.

Kronenberg will return to Buenos Aires in about a month; meanwhile he will visit Hollywood, where he will negotiate for the purchase of the product.

MPA Studies

(*Continued from page* 1)

no definite goal in mind, but insisted that the exhibition of British pictures here should be sharply increased.

At the same time Johnston stressed that the U. S. industry's aim is to effect free international trade of films including more playing time for British pictures here.

Yesterday's MPA board meeting was called for the sole purpose of taking up the Rank discussion in advance of Johnston's trip to the Coast. Among those present in addition to Johnston were: Francis Harmon, MPA vice-president in New York; Gerald Mayer, head of the international division; Joyce O'Hara, Johnston's assistant; Irving Maas, vice-president of the Motion Picture Export Association; Barney Balaban, president of Paramount; Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal; Joseph Vogel, Loew's vice-president; William C. Michel, executive vice-president of 20th Century-Fox, and others.

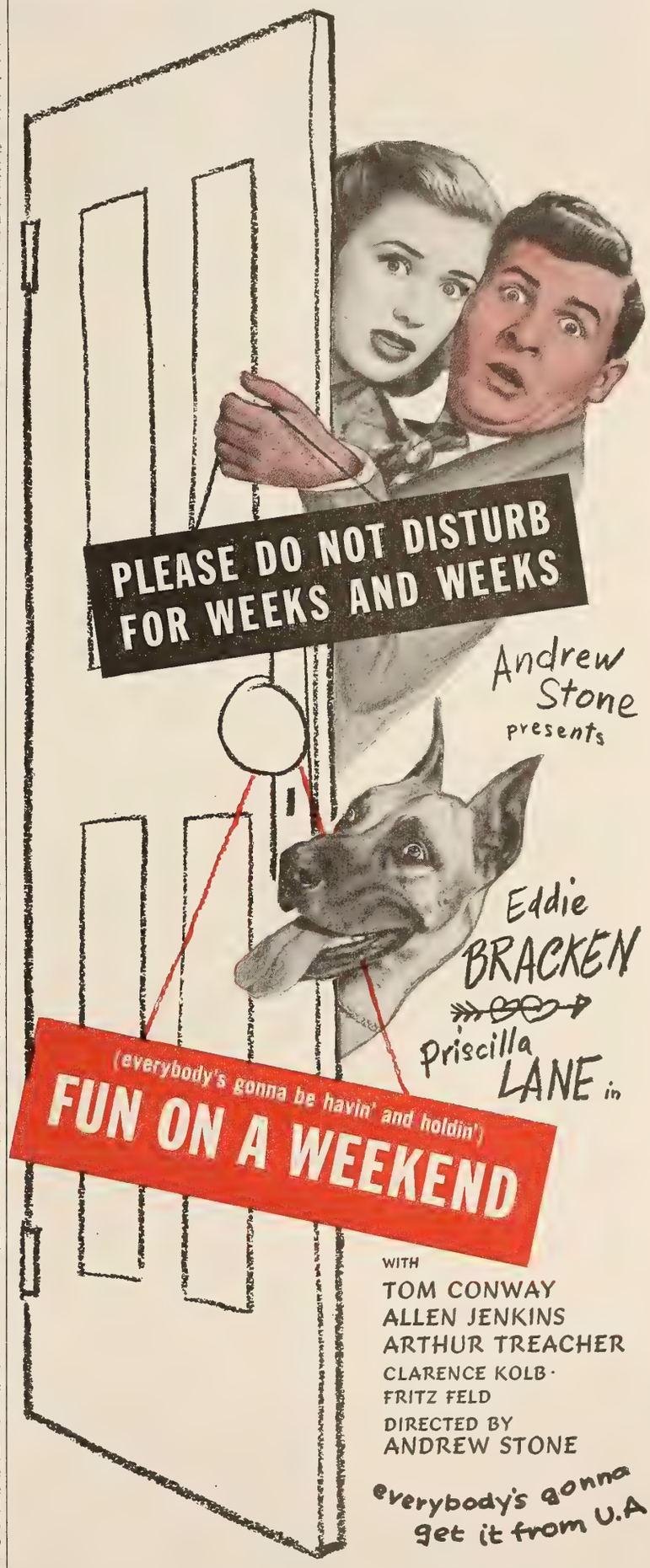
Bid for U. A.

(*Continued from page* 1)

the years, have resisted all offers for their stock interest. This well may be the situation which will prevail eventually insofar as the Semenenko-Fabian negotiations are concerned.

Yesterday, Fabian acknowledged that negotiations along these lines are active. He said they are in five prongs: Semenenko, Pickford and Arnold Grant, her attorney who is currently ill; Charles Schwartz, who represents Chaplin legally, and himself. Fabian, however, refused to predict the final outcome.

Meanwhile, the negotiations launched by Grant with Joseph R. Vogel, vice-president of Loew's and general manager of the Loew circuit, also continue.



Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"The Farmer's Daughter" was running well above average in its second week. It was a week of average weather. Estimated receipts for the week ended May 21:

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—BELMONT (1,600) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $8,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-85c-$1.00: $7,100)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,500)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.-Allied Artists)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,200)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,100)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—EL REY (861) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-85c-$1.00: $6,800)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—FOX WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $13,300)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,900)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,800)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,200)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.-Allied Artists) and FALL GUY (Mono.)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $28,600)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $22,600)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.-Allied Artists)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beevrly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,700)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $14,200)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,400)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,700)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $25,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-85c-$1.00: $18,800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PALACE (1,237) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.25-$1.80) 17th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-85c-$1.00: $21,000)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $20,800)

NORTHWEST OUTPOST (Rep.) and THE FABULOUS SUZANNE (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $26,600)

NORTHWEST OUTPOST (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $16,100)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,600)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,100)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $15,800)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.-Allied Artists)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,200)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—VOGUE (800) 7 days, 20th week. Gross: $6,500. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-85c-$1.00: $10,000)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,200)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $15,500)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $14,500)

PHILADELPHIA

"Framed" is breaking house records at the Stanton in a week of dull business, with most theatres featuring holdovers. "The Macomber Affair" is the only other strong new booking. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 20-22:

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $13,800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ARCADIA (900) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 7th week. Gross: $11,800. (Average at regular prices of 50c-94c: $6,600)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—BOYD (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $24,500. (Average: $21,000)

FUN ON A WEEKEND (UA)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days. On stage, Elliot Lawrence. Gross, 6 days: $18,700)

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA) 1 day. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $31,700)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $25,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $24,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,500)

CALIFORNIA (Para.)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $3,800. (Average: $6,200)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $24,700. (Average: $29,500)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PIX (500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 7th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: $14,700. (Average: $27,600)

FRAMED (Col.)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $23,800. (Average: $12,700)

SALT LAKE CITY

Moderately cool weather, following a record-breaking heat wave, has boosted grosses considerably at all first-run theatres here. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 25:

CAPTION CAUTION (Favorite) and CAPTION FURY (Favorite)—CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $8,900. (Average: $7,800)

HOMESTRETCH (20th - Fox)—CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,600)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—RIALTO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $3,700)

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $4,800)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,900)

SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $15,500. (Average: $12,300)

DENVER

Business was good at the Orpheum with "The Yearling" and "Crime Doctor's Manhunt," and at the Paramount and Esquire, where "Stallion Road" and "Millie's Daughter" are being held. Estimated receipts for the week ended May 21:

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) and MAGNIFICENT ROGUE (Rep.)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 2nd week, after two weeks each at the Paramount and Esquire. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,000)

MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M) and LIGHTHOUSE (PRC)—BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,000)

LADIES' MAN (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,000)

SON OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I) and BLIND SPOT (Col.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c). Day-and-date with the Webber. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,000)

STALLION ROAD (WB) and MILLIE'S DAUGHTER (Col.)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c). Day-and-date with the Paramount. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M) and CRIME DOCTOR'S MANHUNT (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c). Gross: $20,500. (Average: $15,500)

STALLION ROAD (WB) and MILLIE'S DAUGHTER (Col.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,000)

JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.) and THE GHOST GOES WILD (Rep.)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c). After one week at the Denver and Esquire. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,000)

ABIE'S IRISH ROSE (UA)—TABOR (1,967) (35c-74c). With stage show. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,000)

SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I) and MILLIE'S DAUGHTER (Col.)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c). Day-and-date with the Denver. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $2,000)

CLEVELAND

"The Egg and I," at the RKO Allen, is hitting on all cylinders, marking the only real box-office bright spot in a generally dull business week. Weather has been rainy. Estimated receipts for the week ended May 20-21:

THE THIEF OF BAGDAD (Film Classics)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,000)

DISHONORED LADY (UA)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $22,000)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—LOWER MALL (563) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25-$1.50) 7th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,500)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c). Gross: $27,500. (Average: $12,600)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $21,400)

SMASH-UP (U-I)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $18,400)

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,600)

MINNEAPOLIS

Business received competition from the opening of the fishing season and weather that favored outdoor activities. "Easy Come, Easy Go," registered strong at Radio City. Estimated receipts for the week ended May 22:

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c) 2nd week, on a moveover from Radio City. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,300)

LAST OF THE MOHICANS (PRC reissue)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: $3,200. (Average: $3,400)

SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (U-I)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 2nd week: on a moveover from the State. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,600)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $14,500)

EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-85c). With stage show. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $18,000)

BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,500)

BOOMERANG (20th-Fox)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $13,600)

BUFFALO

"The Egg and I" at the Lafayette and "The Two Mrs. Carrolls" at the Great Lakes, both in first weeks, are doing exceptionally fine business. Elsewhere grosses are below average. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 26:

BLAZE OF NOON (Para.) and MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $16,800. (Average: $19,000)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $23,400. (Average: $18,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 3rd week on a moveover. Gross: $8,100. (Average: $10,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $24,200. (Average: $15,000)

THE RED HOUSE (UA) and THREE ON A TICKET (PRC)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $4,600. (Average: $6,000)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 3rd week. Gross: $11,300. (Average: $16,000)

KANSAS CITY

"Blaze of Noon," at the Newman, and "Boom Town," at the Midland, are the only pictures doing above-average business here. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 20-22:

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and STRANGE JOURNEY (20th-Fox)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c). Gross: $6,000. (Average when first-run day-and-date with Uptown and Fairway: $8,000)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c). Gross: $1,750. (Average: $1,750)

BOOM TOWN (M-G-M reissue) and THE MIGHTY McGURK (M-G-M)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,000)

BLAZE OF NOON (Para.)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,600)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio) and EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,000)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

PITTSBURGH

Despite excellent weather conditions, first run houses generally have been unable to match averages. Only "Framed," at the Harris, is doing measurably better. Estimated receipts for the week ended May 20:

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,700)

FRAMED (Col.)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,000)

DISHONORED LADY (UA)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $25,000)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,500)

SWELL GUY (U-I) and MICHIGAN KID (U-I)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $3,300. (Average: $3,200)

CALCUTTA (Para.)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $25,000)

SAN QUENTIN (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $15,000)

Puerto Rico Vetoes Theatre Tax Bill

SAN JUAN, May 21. — Gov. Jesus Pinero has vetoed a proposed five per cent admission tax. The exhibitors' association had expressed vigorous opposition to passage of the bill.

The Governor did approve legislation to provide tax exemption to new industries, including the production of motion pictures for commercial purposes. The measure provides total tax exemption from 1947 to 1955, and partial exemption up to 1956-1957.

Another act signed by the Governor reduces from 20 per cent ad valorem to 15 per cent the internal revenue tax on all motion picture cameras, projectors and cinematographic parts.

Must Cut 'Duel', Pa. Censor Board Rules

PHILADELPHIA, May 21.—"Duel in the Sun," scheduled to have its Philadelphia premiere at the Fox here on May 29, with 20 other city and suburban theatres to begin showing it the following day, will have to be "toned down" before it can be shown in the state, it has been decided by the Pennsylvania Board of Censors.

Members of the board declined to comment further, but it is understood that many protests were filed by church groups and women's clubs objecting to the showing of the film without cuts.

Union to Sponsor Dance

CHICAGO, May 21.—Local F-45 of the Film Exchange Employes Union will hold its first annual dance at the Midland Hotel here Friday. Jack Eckhardt, head 20th Century-Fox booker here, is president of the local, which covers 240 "front office" industry employes. Leo Schauer, also of 20th, is chairman of the dance committee.

Named UJA Co-chairmen

ST. LOUIS, May 21.—Sam Komm, head of the SK Circuit, and Fred Wehrenberg, president of the MPTOA, were named local co-chairmen of the motion picture division of the United Jewish Appeal, during the absence of Joseph Ansell of Ansell Brothers Circuit, on the West Coast and in Mexico.

'New Orleans' Set Here

"New Orleans," Jules Levey production, will be the next film at the New York Winter Garden, following another United Artists release, "Carnegie Hall." "New Orleans" has also been set for early June openings at the Majestic, Dallas; the four Music Halls in Los Angeles, and the United Artists Theatre in San Francisco.

Paramount Concert

Harvey D. Gibson will head the list of patrons and box-holders at Paramount Pictures' Choral Society's sixth annual concert which will be given tomorrow evening in the Plaza Hotel for the benefit of refugees.

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Reviews

"Moss Rose"

(20th Century-Fox)

THE RATHER curious custom of a murderer placing at the homicidal scene a moss rose pressed between the pages of a bible, accounts for the film's title. An attractive cast has been assembled to bolster the goings-on, headed by Peggy Cummins, Victor Mature and Ethel Barrymore. The film, which perhaps can best be described as a murder mystery with period-piece trimmings, has in its early reels some comic implications which soon give way to the melodramatic proceedings. It should generally satisfy the customers.

Miss Cummins, a London chorus girl at the turn of the century, yearns to leave her Cockney home and become an elegant lady. When she catches Mature, a man of polished social standing, dashing from a room in which another chorus girl had been murdered, she tracks him down, and demands as blackmail, not money, but a visit to Mature's fashionable country home where she can learn to become a lady. At the estate she meets Mature's matriarchal mother, Miss Barrymore, and his fiancee, Patricia Medina. Elements of jealousy develop between the two young women, culminating in the murder of Miss Medina, again accompanied by the moss rose.

In directing the Gene Markey production, Gregory Ratoff made much use of fogs, shadows and similar devices to deepen atmosphere. As the screenplay, by Jules Furthman and Tom Reed, which occasionally strains credulity, goes on to its conclusion, Miss Barrymore is revealed as the psychotic killer. The motivation: she could not bear to share her son's love with another woman. Performances are generally satisfactory, there being a compelling forcefulness to Miss Barrymore's role. As a Scotland Yard inspector, Vincent Price renders a memorable characterization.

Running time, 82 minutes. General audience classification. For June release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Dick Tracy's Dilemma"

(RKO Radio)

LATEST edition of the cinematic adventures of Chester Gould's cartoon strip super-sleuth hews to the basic pattern of its predecessors. Tracy is provided with a ruthless, bizarre adversary (this time it's "The Claw," a one-armed thug who rips into his enemies with a hook appurtenance), faces the task of wiping out a racket (a fur-stealing syndicate in this instance), and, after an hour of fast cop-and-robber action, emerges as the unruffled victor in the battle against crime.

Ralph Byrd plays Tracy, and bears a reasonably good resemblance to the strip character; Lyle Latell again fills the role of Pat Patton, Tracy's right-hand man; Kay Christopher is cast as the detective's girl-friend, Tess; Jack Lambert plays "The Claw"; Ian Keith is Vitamin Flintheart. All function nicely, but Jimmy Conlin, in the role of a fear-ridden, keen-sighted "blind" beggar, walks off with acting honors. Bernadene Hayes, William B. Davidson, Tony Barrett and Richard Powers round out the cast.

John Rawlins, directing from a screenplay by Robert Stephen Brode, kept the proceedings moving excitingly through dark alleys and in and out of crime dens. Herman Schlom's production is well polished.

Running time, 60 minutes. General audience classification. For September release.

C. L. F.

'Repeat Performance' WorldPremiereToday

ZANESVILLE, O., May 21.—Robert S. Benjamin, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization in the U. S., has arrived here to join Eagle-Lion vice-president and sales manager A. W. Schwalberg and director of advertising-publicity Max E. Youngstein at the world premiere of Eagle-Lion's "Repeat Performance" which will be held tomorrow at the Liberty, Weller and Quimby theatres.

Also attending will be state and city officials headed by Ohio's Gov. Thomas J. Herbert; newspaper, radio, magazine and trade paper correspondents, and Hollywood personalities.

Argosy Film to UA

Argosy Productions, headed by John Ford, has made arrangements with United Artists for the distribution of its forthcoming production, "The Last Outlaw," which will be filmed in color.

New Astor 'Featurette'

Astor Pictures will release a musical "featurette," entitled "Ovoutie O'Rooney," which was produced by Jack Rieger. It stars the Slim Gaillard Trio, now appearing in "Stairway for a Star."

Another Break in Booking Combine

MINNEAPOLIS, May 21. — Marking the second break of independents away from buying and booking combines here in as many weeks, Jack Heywood has checked his New Richmond and Stanley (Wis.) theatres out of Theatre Associates, largest of the Minneapolis combines.

Official reason for Heywood's break-away is termed "a simple booking problem," it being pointed out Heywood plays as close as possible to Twin Cities first runs while TA negotiates many of its deals during and following the Twin Cities first-runs. The arrangement set Heywood back too far on a number of pictures, it was said, to maintain a policy established particularly at New Richmond, which is only 50 miles from St. Paul.

Legion Classifies Six Additional Pictures

RKO Radio's "Thunder Mountain" has been classified A-I by the National Legion of Decency. Other films newly rated are: Class A-II, "Christmas Eve," United Artists; "Gunfighters," Columbia; "The Little Martyr" (Italian), Superfilm. Rated Class B were: "They Won't Believe Me," RKO Radio; "Two Anonymous Letters" (Italian), Lux Films.

Benny Draws Roxy High of $23,000

The opening yesterday of Jack Benny's two-week appearance at the Roxy Theatre, here, brought a gross of $23,000, highest in the Roxy's history, according to Roxy officials. Nearest to this figure, they said, was the $21,900 grossed on the opening day of "The Razor's Edge." Opening with Benny was 20th Century-Fox's "The Brasher Doubloon."

Patrons who attended the first show witnessed a clash of wits between Fred Allen and Benny. Allen, who suddenly revealed his presence in the audience toward the close of Benny's show, exchanged quips with Benny. Others in the show are Phil Harris, Marjorie Reynolds, Rochester and the Sportsmen's Quartet.

Cudahy Faces Tax

CUDAHY, Wis., May 21. — Local theatres will require city licenses under a proposed ordinance which provides fees of $50 for theatres with fewer than 200 seats, $75 for 200 to 499, $100 for 500 to 999, and $200 for more than 1,000. An ordinance prohibiting smoking in theatres is also pending.

Jules Levey to Europe

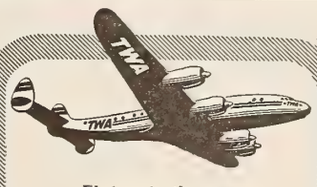
Jules Levey, independent producer releasing through United Artists, is completing plans to leave New York for London within 10 days to begin a survey of European production facilities with a view toward making a picture either in England or on the Continent. It would be his first picture to be made abroad.

Nuremberg Trial Film

The official Soviet documentary film version of the Nuremberg trials, which led to the conviction of Hitler's top leaders, will have its American premiere tomorrow at the Stanley Theatre. "The Nuremberg Trials" is being released in the U. S. by Artkino Pictures.

Schaefer to Coast

George Schaefer, distribution chief of Enterprise, will leave here for the Coast next week to confer with David Loew on selling plans for "Arch of Triumph."



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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
April 26	(April Releases) GUILT OF JANET AMES Rosalind Russell D—81 mins. (Rev. 3/5/47) FRAMED Glenn Ford D—82 mins. (Rev. 3/5/47)	(April Releases) IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN Frank Sinatra Jimmy Durante C—103 mins. (718) (Rev. 3/3/47) LITTLE MR. JIM Butch Jenkins James Craig D—94 mins. (719) (Rev. 6/10/46) THE SEA OF GRASS Spencer Tracy Katharine Hepburn D—125 mins. (720) (Rev. 2/13/47)	(Allied Artists) IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE Don DeFore D—115 min. (Rev. 2/3/47)	THE IMPERFECT LADY Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—97 mins. (Rev. 3/10/47)	FRONTIER FIGHTERS RAIDERS OF RED ROCK PANHANDLE TRAIL CODE OF THE PLAINS THUNDERCAP OUTLAWS SHOOTIN' IRONS		(Block 5) HONEYMOON Shirley Temple Franchot Tone C—74 mins. (721) (Rev. 4/16/47) TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS Johnny Weismuller O—72 mins. (723) (Rev. 3/20/47) SAN DEMETRIO, LONDON Walter Fitzgerald Mervyn Johns D—76 min. (Rev. 4/1/47) BORN TO KILL Lawrence Tierney D—92 mins. (722) (Rev. 4/21/47) A LIKELY STORY Barbara Hale Bill Williams C—88 mins. (724) (Rev. 4/21/47) BANJO Sharyn Moffett Una O'Connor D—67 mins. (725) (Rev. 4/21/47)	(April Releases) THE LATE GEORGE APLEY Ronald Colman Peggy Cummins C—98 min. (Rev. 1/31/47) CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA Dick Haymes Vera-Ellen M—95 min. (Rev. 3/25/47) (May Releases) THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR Rex Harrison Gene Tierney D—104 min. (7157) (Rev. 5/16/47) HOMESTRETCH Cornel Wilde Maureen O'Hara D—96 min. (713) (Rev. 4/18/47) JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG Richard Travis Micheline Cheirel D—64 min. (716) (Rev. 4/10/47) (June Release) MOSS ROSE Peggy Cummins Victor Mature MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET Maureen O'Hara John Payne D—96 min. (718) (Rev. 5/2/47)		(Reissue) THE SEA HAWK Errol Flynn Claude Rains (Reissue) THE SEA WOLF Edw. G. Robinson Ida Lupino LOVE AND LEARN Jack Carson Robert Hutton C—85 min. (620) (Rev. 3/25/47)
May 3	FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson D—69 mins.		LAND OF THE LAWLESS J. Mack Brown O—59 min. (671) (Rev. 5/12/47) (Reissue) QUEEN OF THE YUKON Charles Bickford	BLAZE OF NOON Anne Baxter William Holden D—90 mins. (Rev. 3/4/47)				(Enterprise) RAMROD Joel McCrea Veronica Lake O—94 mins. (Rev. 2/21/47) (Comet) ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (Color) Richard Martin D—65 mins. (Rev. 5/1/47)		
May 10	(May Releases) LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) D—77 mins. GUNFIGHTERS (Color)		HARD BOILED MAHONEY Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall C—63 mins. (616) (Rev. 4/10/47)		(Eagle-Lion) RED STALLION Robert Paige Ted Donaldson BORDER FEUD Al La Rue O—55 min.	OREGON TRAIL SCOUTS Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min. THAT'S MY GAL (Color) Lynne Roberts Donald Barry		(Hunt Stromberg) DISHONORED LADY Hedy Lamarr (Rev. 4/23/47)	(April Releases) BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME Abbott-Costello C—77 mins. (Rev. 3/10/47) YOU CAN'T CHEAT AN HONEST MAN (Reissue) W. C. Fields C—73 mins. (Rev. 2/20/39) I STOLE A MILLION (Reissue) George Raft Claire Trevor D—78 mins. (Rev. 7/18/39)	
May 17	BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY Ron Randell D—70 mins.	(May Release) HIGH BARBAREE Van Johnson June Allyson D—91 min. (Rev. 3/13/47) UNDERCOVER MAISIE Ann Southern Barry Nelson C—90 min. (Rev. 3/4/47) (Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)	SARGE GOES TO COLLEGE Alan Hale, Jr. D—63 min. (618) (Rev. 5/12/47)	BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—60 min. (Rev. 2/18/47)	(Eagle-Lion) REPEAT PERFORMANCE Joan Leslie Louis Hayward	WINTER WONDERLAND Lynne Roberts Charles Drake D—71 min.		(Hopalong Cassidy) DANGEROUS VENTURE William Boyd O—59 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)	(May Releases) TIME OUT OF MIND Phyllis Calvert Robert Hutton Ella Raines D—88 mins. (Rev. 3/7/47)	
May 24	LAW OF THE CANYON Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette		BACKFIRE Johnny Mack Brown		TOO MANY WINNERS Hugh Beaumont (Reissue) THE CORSICAN BROTHERS Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. (Reissue) INTERNATIONAL LADY George Brent			(Sam Coslow) COPACABANA Groucho Marx Carmen Miranda M—92 mins.	(Reissue) MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION Irene Dunne Robert Taylor D—101 min. (2795) (Reissue) 100 MEN AND A GIRL Deanna Durbin Leopold Stokowski D—84 min. (2796)	THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS Humphrey Bogart Barbara Stanwyck D—100 min. (621) (Rev 4/1/47)
May 31	THE MILLERSON CASE Warner Baxter PRAIRIE RAIDERS Charles Starrett		SONG OF THE WASTELAND Jimmy Wakely	CALCUTTA Alan Ladd Wm. Bendix D—83 min. (Rev. 4/16/47)	KILLER AT LARGE Robert Lowery O—63 min. (Rev. 4/30/47)	THAT'S MY MAN Don Ameche Catherine McLeod D—104 min. (Rev. 4/7/47)					
June 1	THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. George Brent Joan Blondell D—87 min.	(June Releases) LIVING IN A BIG WAY Gene Kelly Marie McDonald D			STEPCHILD Brenda Joyce D—70 min.	SADDLE PALS Gene Autry O	(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)				
June 8		DARK DELUSION James Craig Lucille Bremer D—90 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)	HIGH CONQUEST Anna Lee Warren Douglas D—83 mins. (Rev. 3/13/47)	DANGER STREET Jane Withers D—66 min. (4623) (Rev. 2/27/47)	PHILO VANCE RETURNS William Wright D—64 min. (Rev. 4/30/47)	WEBB OF DANGER Adele Mara D	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)			(June Releases) ODD MAN OUT James Mason Robert Newton D—113 min. (Rev. 2/26/47)	CHEYENNE Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman O—100 mins. (622) (Rev. 4/23/47)
June 15	LITTLE MISS BROADWAY Jean Porter M—69 min.				HEARTACHES Sheila Ryan PIONEER JUSTICE Al La Rue		DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47)			THE WEB Edward O'Brien Ella Raines William Bendix	
June 22	SPORT OF KINGS Paul Campbell D—68 min. SWING THE WESTERN WAY Jack Leonard O			THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—80 min. (Rev. 4/28/47)			DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729)			THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay	
June 29			KILROY WAS HERE Jackie Cooper Jackie Coogan D—(621)				THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730)				THE UNFAITHFUL Ann Sheridan Lew Ayres D—109 min. (623)

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.]

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 101 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, MAY 23, 1947 TEN CENTS

IA-Lab Firms In Deadlock On Wage Rise

Union Seeks West Coast Parity for Technicians

Wage negotiations between representatives of 16 film laboratories and of Laboratory Local No. 702, IATSE, have broken down after almost five months of bargaining, with the result that Richard F. Walsh, international president of IATSE, is expected to intervene immediately.

Confirmation of the cessation of discussion came yesterday from both John J. Francavilla, president and business agent of Local No. 702, and Joseph McMahon, attorney for Consolidated and chairman of the employers' group. Nearly 2,000 laboratory technicians are affected.

While McMahon said that the chief "hitch" was wages, Francavilla declared that the companies have re-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Office Guild Seeks $10 Weekly Raise

Members of Local No. 109, Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, CIO, have voted to ask for wage increases of $10 weekly or 30 per cent, whichever is higher. More than 2,500 employees are affected.

The decision was made at a membership meeting Wednesday at which it was also voted to have an assess-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Vogel Rejects Offer Of UA Presidency

Joseph R. Vogel, vice-president of Loew's Inc., has informed Arnold Grant, attorney and director of United Artists, that he would not accept UA's offer to become its president. Vogel had been offered the presidency under an arrangement that would cover a period of years and include a stock interst in UA.

"Your offer is very tempting, I admit," Vogel wrote Grant, "but I have my heart and my obligations here with Loew's, where I intend to remain."

Jacocks Buys Out Cocalis

The eight remaining theatres, all in New Jersey, of the Cocalis Circuit have been purchased by Don Jacocks, head of Alden Operating Co., and former Warner Theatres zone manager in that state. The estate of Sam Cocalis who died here about six years ago was the owner.

Jay Thompson, who had operated the circuit for the estate, plans to enter the real estate and drive-in theatre fields. The Cocalis Circuit, one of the oldest in the East, comprised 20 houses until a few years ago when 12 were acquired by RKO, Skouras and other interests.

Walsh Rejects Idea Of General Strike

Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, frowns upon the idea of a one-day general strike by labor in protest against current anti-labor legislation in Congress.

Walsh said he is opposed to the idea of a protest strike, reports of which have appeared in the news press recently, adding: "We have contracts and we try to live up to them. We hope everybody does the same thing. I don't think a one-day strike would do any good."

Walsh also expressed the hope that a merger of AFL and CIO would take place, and said: "A united labor movement would do some good."

RKO-Radio 36th in Top U.S. Ad-Users

RKO-Radio Pictures was 36th among the nation's largest advertisers in 1946, with a total advertising budget of $2,823,753, according to *Advertising Age*.

Loew's M-G-M was 77th, with $1,691,658; United Artists 114th, with $1,143,768, and Paramount was 119th, with $1,099,217.

Procter & Gamble held the No. 1 place, with a total expenditure of $24,656,164.

To Disclose German Film Plans Today

WASHINGTON, May 22.—The War Department will release tomorrow complete production plans for the German film industry along with the number of films scheduled for production this year and in 1948, officials revealed today.

Production details and figures were received by cable from Berlin today in answer to a letter asking for clarification sent recently to Brig.-Gen. William H. Draper, Jr., director of the economics division, American Military Government.

The War Department announcement will also give a complete clarification of U. S. Government policy in regard to the rehabilitation of the German film industry and the export of German-made films.

Bidding Will 'Boomerang' On Exhibitors: Durwood

Independent exhibitors who have urged the adoption of competitive selling in anticipation of seeing that procedure work to their advantage will discover sooner or later that bidding will "boomerang," and will ultimately prove to be wholly to the advantage of distributors. This is the opinion of Ed Durwood, general manager of the 22-house Durwood circuit in Kansas and Missouri, who is visiting New York from Kansas City.

Durwood, a veteran of 45 years in exhibition, termed competitive bidding a system whereby distributors are guaranteed "a pound of flesh." Since the consent decree decision in the New York equity suit, he said, the Durwood organization participated in competitive bidding in four instances and each time the pictures bid for were sold away to competitive situations. The sell-away did not trouble his company particularly, Durwood said, since in each instance equally good product of other companies was available on a non-bidding basis. However, the four bidding experiences were enough for Durwood, he said, and now he avoids the system completely.

Marquee names as picture-selling factors are of less importance than good story material, Durwood believes, holding that the public usually knows more about the entertainment quality of a picture before it is shown than exhibitors and distributors imagine. He said his experience has shown that filmgoers are invariably disappointed with pictures in which a single player emerges with all the

(*Continued on page* 8)

Circuits Show Willingness to Favor Britain

Will Match Film Quality With Best Playing Time

While large American circuits incline to the belief that no hard-and-fast commitments of increased playing time for British pictures can be made in advance, executive representatives of many of them gave indication yesterday that every consideration will be given deserving British product.

The prospect, in consequence, definitely points to more and better circuit playing time for British films from now on.

The subject of increased playing time for the better British films over here was brought to a head by J. Arthur Rank, British industry leader, in public and private utterances following his recent arrival from London. Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, followed through by

(*Continued on page* 8)

Stevens Reelected S.D.G. President

HOLLYWOOD, May 22.—The Screen Directors Guild announced today the re-election of George Stevens, president. New Officers include Lewis Milestone, first vice-president; John Huston, second vice-president; George Sidney, secretary; and George Marshall, treasurer. The Guild also voted D. W. Griffith, Marshall Neilan and Tod Browning life memberships, and approved the launching of a public relations program in behalf of the industry.

US - Industry Parley On 'Freedom Train'

WASHINGTON, May 22.—Industry leaders and representatives of other national groups conferred today at the White House to set the American Heritage Foundation's "Freedom Train" on the rails. At a morning

(*Continued on page* 8)

In This Issue

"Repeat Performance" and "Thunder Mountain" are reviewed on page 8. Key city reports are on page 7.

Coming Events

May 26—M-G-M office managers meeting, Cosmopolitan Hotel, Denver.

May 28-29—Montana Theatres Association annual spring convention, Boulder Springs, Mont.

June 3-4—Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Arkansas meeting, Little Rock, Ark.

June 23-25—Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana summer convention, Lake Wawasee, Ind.

June 24-26—Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey 28th annual convention, Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City.

Says 'Reds' Firmly Rooted in Studios

WASHINGTON, May 22.—Asserting that Communism is firmly established in Hollywood, Rep. McDowell, who returned from the Coast today, said that the House sub-committee investigating un-American activities in Hollywood could name "who got into films and how." However, he maintained that producers were not to blame.

"It was put over very cleverly," McDowell said. "There are Communists in all branches of the industry—artists, directors, soundmen, photographers and, most important, writers," he added.

Hearings on alleged un-American activities in Hollywood will open here on June 16 before the sub-committee. Expected to be on hand are film composer Hans Eisler, Adolphe Menjou, Jack Moffitt, and others. McDowell said that he personally did not favor calling Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, to testify. "Mr. Johnston appeared before us once," he said, "and said there were no Communists in Hollywood and they had no influence there. All branches of the industry in Hollywood told us they were astonished at Johnston's statement. Apparently he hasn't been on this job long enough to find out what the situation really is, and I don't see how we could learn very much from him."

Committee chairman J. Parnell Thomas, who is still on the Coast, is expected to make a complete statement when he returns on Monday.

Outline Program for Films for Schools

The program of the Educational Film Research Institute for motion picture evaluation in schools and for the separation of child from adult entertainment, was outlined here yesterday by Ruth B. Hedges, secretary of the unit and chairman of the California Congress of Parents and Teachers.

Mrs. Hedges was guest of honor at a luncheon at the New York Athletic Club given by the Motion Picture Association.

Personal Mention

HERBERT J. YATES, Republic Pictures president, and WILLIAM SAAL, his studio assistant, are slated to leave Hollywood by plane tomorrow for New York.

•

CARYL BARRETT, national chairman of the merchandise committee of the motion picture division, March of Dimes, will leave here for the Coast today.

•

H. ALBAN-MESTANZA, Foreign Screen Corp. president, and his partner-wife, ELIANE HENO MESTANZA, are vacationing at Cape Cod, Mass.

•

SIDNEY YOUNG, president of Local No. 109, Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, CIO, who has been ill, will take a month's rest.

•

GEORGE P. SKOURAS, Skouras Theatres president, will fly to Washington today from the Coast via American Airlines.

•

S. BARRET MCCORMICK, advertising-publicity director for RKO Radio, will leave New York Sunday for Hollywood.

•

GERALDINE FITZGERALD and LEO G. CARROLL will sail for England tomorrow on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*.

•

CLAUDE LEE, Paramount public relations director, has returned to the home office from the Coast.

•

LYNN FARNOL will mark his 20th anniversary in association with SAMUEL GOLDWYN next month.

•

R. D. GOLDBERG, circuit owner in Omaha and Council Bluffs, Neb., is in New York.

SEYMOUR NEBENZAL, United Artists independent producer, is due here Monday from Hollywood for sales talks.

•

SAMUEL N. BURGER, Loew's International sales manager, and DAVID LEWIS, regional director for Continental Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, have arrived in Europe from New York.

•

MITCHELL LEISEN, Paramount director, has been informed that he will be honored as an outstanding director by the International Film Festival to be held at Venice, Italy, Aug. 14-Sept. 10.

•

MAURICE WHITE, circuit operator with headquarters in Cincinnati, and his associates, NICK SCHAEFER and ROBERT LIBSON, are here for a week's visit.

•

REX TAYLOR, Paramount photo editor, has been awarded the Order of the British Empire for services rendered to the British press.

•

ARTHUR BLUTREICH, of Warners' theatre department here, and MRS. BLUTREICH are parents of their second son.

•

GEORGE DEMBOW, National Screen Service sales head, will fly to New York today from the Coast.

•

L. J. PEPPER has resigned as city manager for the Wilby-Kincey circuit in Kingsport, Tenn.

•

HAROLD DAWSON, PRC advertising manager, is at home recovering from a cold.

Official Cites Films As 'Cheyenne' Opens

CHEYENNE, May 22.—Tribute was paid to the film industry by Gov. Lester C. Hunt of Wyoming here yesterday in connection with the premiere of Warner's "Cheyenne." "American motion pictures have long been recognize as one of the finest and most instructive educational instruments in our democracy," he said.

The film opened last night in three theatres here, the Lincoln, Paramount and Princess, with Warner stars Dennis Morgan, Jack Carson and Janis Paige making appearances at each house.

Skouras, Zanuck to Hold Optioned Stock

Spyros P. Skouras, president, and Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production of 20th Century-Fox, who separately purchased an aggregate of 142,000 shares of 20th-Fox common stock out of 169,400 shares already issued under option agreements, said yesterday that they have no present intention of disposing of any of their shares.

Claims 'Duel' Ads Set New Pattern

The use of full-page ads in key newspapers to "saturate" areas in which "Duel in the Sun" is to play simultaneously in a large group of theatres, is setting a new note in motion picture merchandising as well as paying dividends on the advertising dollar, according to Robert M. Gillham, Eastern publicity and advertising manager of the Selznick Releasing Organization.

Gillham contended that "because of the large number of theatre seats available in multiple-run engagements, the actual cost of advertising per seat is small." He added that in the past, film companies spent huge amounts advertising first-run showings in one or two spots in a particular city, and that "cost of the advertising message was out of proportion with the numbers of seats available" to the public.

Loew's Pays Dividend

Loew's, Inc., has declared a quarterly dividend of 37½ cents per share on the company's common stock, payable June 30, 1947, to stockholders of record June 13, 1947.

20th Century-Fox Halts 'Black Rose'

HOLLYWOOD, May 22.—Postponement of production of "Black Rose," a Technicolor feature budgeted at $5,000,000, because of "uncertainty of prevailing business conditions throughout the country," was announced last night by Darryl F. Zanuck, production chief of 20th Century-Fox. The picture had been scheduled to start in June, with Louis D. Lighton producing and Henry Hathaway directing.

"Since it can only be properly made on a multi-million dollar production scale, 20th Century-Fox will wait until the box office situation is more settled," probably next winter or spring, he said.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
John MILLS • Valerie HOBSON
in J. Arthur Rank's
"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
Shirley Temple • Franchot Tone • Guy Madison
in
Honeymoon

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st N. Y. Showing!
ROSALIND RUSSELL
MELVYN DOUGLAS
'THE GUILT OF JANET AMES'
IN PERSON
LAMBERTI
BUSTER SHAVER
Extra!
BETTY REILLY
Plus others

Ray MILLAND • Teresa WRIGHT
in
"THE IMPERFECT LADY"
A Paramount Picture
In Person
BUDDY CLARK
The MODERNAIRES
JAN MURRAY
The ACROMANIACS
BOYD RAEBURN and His Orchestra
Midnight Feature Nightly
PARAMOUNT - TIMES SQUARE

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

On Stage! In Person!
JACK BENNY
Plus! PHIL HARRIS • ROCHESTER
Marjorie Reynolds - Sportsmen Quartet
On Screen:
"THE BRASHER DOUBLOON"
George Montgomery - Nancy Guild
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco. New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco. London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.


THE SPIRIT.....so Willing!
THE FLESH.....
.....so Weak!
BOXOFFICE.....
so Wonderful!


THE
BOXOFFICE
LOVE
TEAM
OF
THE
YEAR !

GENE TIERNEY



comes upon a lover who won't succumb to her charms!

REX HARRISON



comes upon a role to become the delight of your life!

GEORGE SANDERS



comes upon them both . . . without the ghost of a chance!



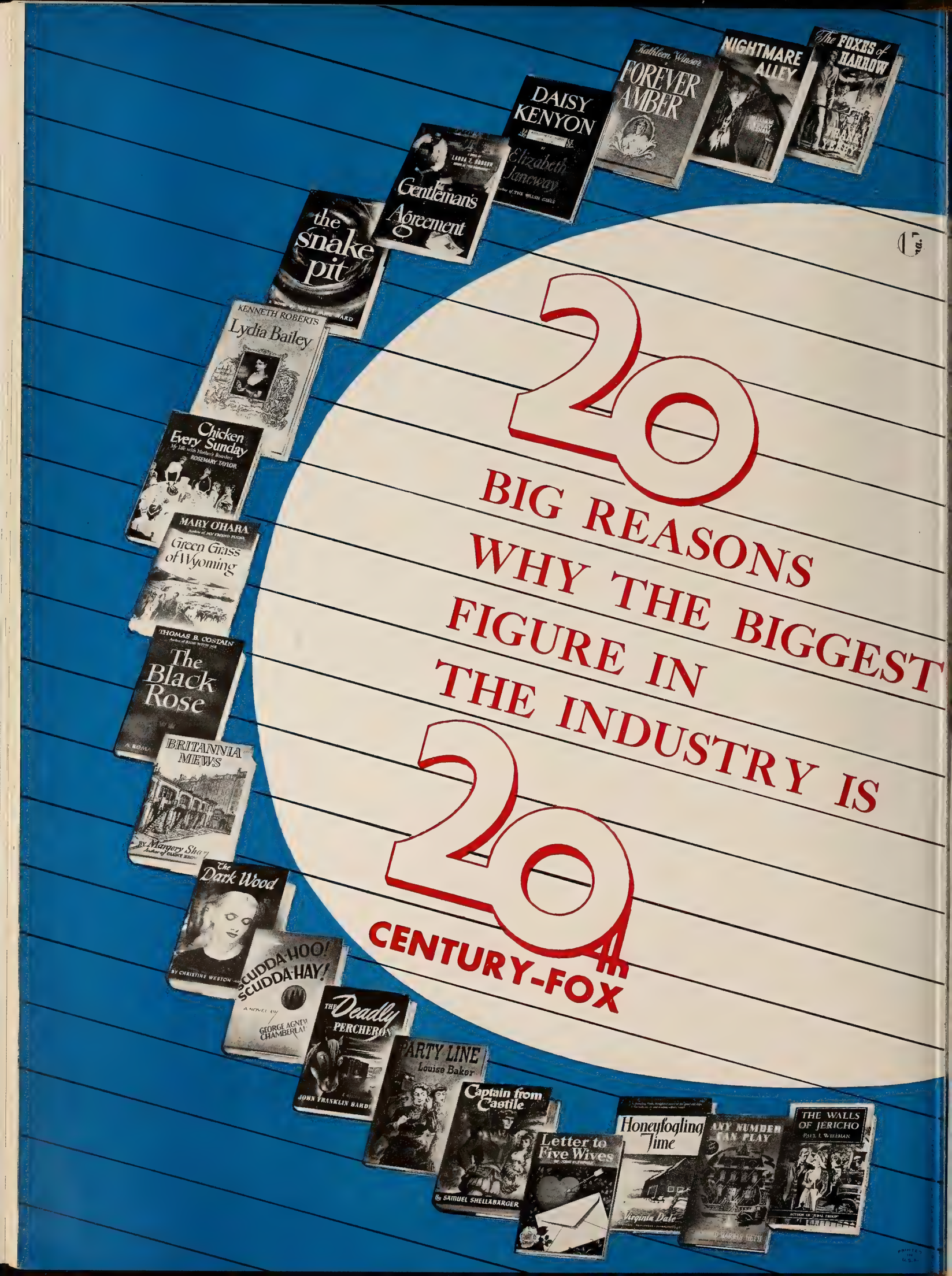
From the best-seller that spread a sly grin across the face of America!

The Ghost and Mrs. Muir

with EDNA BEST · VANESSA BROWN · ANNA LEE · ROBERT COOTE
NATALIE WOOD · ISOBEL ELSOM · VICTORIA HORNE

Directed by JOSEPH L. MANKIEWICZ · Produced by FRED KOHLMAR

Screen Play by Philip Dunne · From the Novel by R. A. Dick


20
BIG REASONS
WHY THE BIGGEST
FIGURE IN
THE INDUSTRY IS
20th
CENTURY-FOX
DAISY KENYON
Elizabeth Janeway
Kathleen Winsor
FOREVER AMBER
NIGHTMARE ALLEY
The FOXES of HARROW
Gentleman's Agreement
the snake pit
KENNETH ROBERTS
Lydia Bailey
Chicken Every Sunday
ROSEMARY TAYLOR
MARY O'HARA
Green Grass of Wyoming
THOMAS B. COSTAIN
The Black Rose
BRITANNIA MEWS
The Dark Wood
SCUDDA-HOO! SCUDDA-HAY!
GEORGE AGNEW CHAMBERLAIN
The Deadly PERCHERON
JOHN FRANKLIN BARDIN
PARTY LINE
Louise Baker
Captain from Castile
SAMUEL SHELLABARGER
Letter to Five Wives
Honeyfogling Time
Virginia Dale
ANY NUMBER CAN PLAY
THE WALLS OF JERICHO
PAUL I. WELLMAN

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

INDIANAPOLIS

Film business this week is staging a mild recovery from its early spring setback. The level is higher than it has been for some time, with no gross conspicuously low. Estimated receipts for the week ended May 20-21:

THE MAGNIFICENT ROGUE (Rep.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (48c-72c). With Sammy Kaye orchestra on stage. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $18,000)

STALLION ROAD (WB) and BRINGING UP FATHER (Mono.)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,-300)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—KEITH'S (1,300) (Advanced prices: 74c-$1.20) 3rd week. Gross: $11,-000. (Average at regular prices of 40c-60c: $6,500)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—LOEW'S (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average at regular prices of 40c-60c: $13,800)

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,700)

ST. LOUIS

Grosses are below average. Estimated receipts for the week ended May 21:

THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.) and IT'S A JOKE, SON (Eagle-Lion)—AMBASSADOR (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $17,500)

BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I) and THE DEVIL ON WHEELS (PRC)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $19,500)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-60c-75c) on move-over after two weeks at Loew's State. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,750)

LOVE AND LEARN (WB) and SMASH-UP (U-I)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $12,000)

CALCUTTA (Para.) and I COVER BIG TOWN (Para.)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,-000)

NORA PRENTISS (WB) and BOOMERANG (20th-Fox)—SHUBERT (2,000) (40c-50c-60c). Gross: $5,500.

BOSTON

For the second week at advanced prices, "Duel in the Sun" topped the city at Loew's Orpheum and State theatres. Estimated receipts for the week ended May 21:

BORN TO KILL (RKO Radio)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). With stage show. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $31,000)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.-Allied Artists) and VIOLENCE (Mono.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,500)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and BANJO (RKO Radio)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c) 4th week. Gross: $22,-000. (Average: $27,200)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) and BIG TOWN (Para.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $27,000. (Average: $26,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (Advanced prices: 70c-$1.00). Gross: $45,000. (Average at regular prices of 40c-80c: $20,000)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.-Allied Artists) and VIOLENCE (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $14,900)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—STATE (2,-900) (Advanced prices: 70c-$1.00). Gross: $25,000. (Average at regular prices of 35c-80c: $15,000)

Lease Midwest House To Marcus Circuit

INDIANAPOLIS, May 22.—The Zaring theatre, oldest deluxe neighborhood house in Indianapolis, has been leased to the Central Avenue Theatre Corp., headed by Manny Marcus, by A. C. Zaring, pioneer local exhibitor. The lease is for five years, with options.

Marcus is president, Mrs. Marcus is treasurer and Rex Carr is secretary of Central Avenue, a new affiliate of the Marcus Enterprises, which operates the Ambassador, Cozy and Ritz theatres here and other houses in Anderson and Fort Wayne, Ind., and Dayton, Cincinnati and Cheviot, O.

4 Are Promoted by Redwood Theatres

SAN FRANCISCO, May 22.—George Mann's Redwood Theatres, through general manager Hal Honore, has made the following changes:

Walter Eschebeck, manager of the Esquire in Klamath Falls, has been elevated to district manager. Eschebeck will take over Lloyd Lamb's position, he having been appointed head of the merchandise and real estate department; Dave Petersen takes over as general manager for the Modesto houses, Petersen formerly managing the Strand; and James Gellatly moves up as assistant to Eschebeck, he formerly having managed the Pelican at Klamath Falls.

Academy To Prepare Textbook on Films

HOLLYWOOD, May 22.—A textbook on motion picture techniques, from writing to producing, which the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will prepare in collaboration with the University of California, will be offered for sale through the University of California press. Colleges and universities are expected to be principal buyers.

The Academy also has under consideration the publication of its own periodical, although details have not yet been worked out, it was learned.

O'Brien, Lundy Arrive Today on Elizabeth

Among those arriving today on the SS *Queen Elizabeth* are E. H. Lundy, director of theatres for Gaumont-British Films, and Mrs. Lundy; S. A. Brown, Gaumont-British booking agent; Tom O'Brien, British Member of Parliament and general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees; George Gunn, head of the camera department of Technicolor, Ltd.; Anna Neagle, stage and screen star, and her husband, Herbert Wilcox, British film producer and director.

MGM Tradeshows on Three Films Changed

M-G-M has revised trade show dates of three pictures as follows: "Romance of Rosy Ridge," originally scheduled for showing in New York and Los Angeles on May 26, and elsewhere May 27, will be screened nationally on July 1; all screenings on June 17 for "Song of Love" have been cancelled until further notice and instead "The Hucksters," previously announced for July 1, will be shown. A new date for "Song of Love" will be set shortly.

Charge Negligence In Rome Film Fire

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

ROME, May 18 (By Airmail).—The Rome press is criticizing the city's fire and water supply departments for alleged negligence in the Minerva Film Co. fire, which killed 26 and injured more than 60 persons last week.

The press charges that firemen did not carry the necessary equipment when they fought the fire, and that the water supply department was responsible for a 40-minute delay before water was directed to the mains near the fire. Electrical control center officials also were criticized for having delayed the current in the area of the fire, thus barring entry to the building because of live wires.

Meanwhile, according to the press, the cause of the fire is described as a burning cigarette, dropped allegedly by Vittorio Sallustio, 32, assistant store-keeper, into some scraps of film, and in the vicinity of gasoline.

Alfredo Proja, president of ANICA, and Italo Gemini, president of AGIS, the exhibitors' association, met this week with Francis Harley of 20th Century-Fox to discuss the holding of special benefit performances on one Sunday throughout Italy for the victim's families.

Invite 36 Nations to Italian Exhibition

VENICE, Italy, May 17 (By Airmail).—Participation of the American, British, Russian and French film industries in the International Exhibition of Motion Picture Technique, to be held here Aug. 14 to Sept. 10 is assured by applications arriving here the past few days.

An official invitation has been sent by the Italian Government to 36 nations.

Germany Developed Sound Innovation

WASHINGTON, May 22.—A high fidelity stereophonic system for recording sound on film was developed in Germany during the war, it was disclosed here in a Department of Commerce report.

The system makes it possible to create the illusion of natural auditory depth in the reproduction of sound, it is said.

Cite 3 Warners for Educational Films

The annual citation for "distinguished and noteworthy contribution to American education," awarded by Bergen Junior College, Teaneck, N. J., will be given this year to Harry M., Jack L. and Albert Warner, it was announced yesterday by Dr. C. L. Littel, president of the school.

Presentation of the award will take place on Sunday at the commencement exercises of the college.

Glass to Screen Plays

HOLLYWOOD, May 22.—George Glass, publicity director of Artists Alliance, headed by Mary Pickford and Lester Cowan, has resigned to become executive vice-president of the newly formed Screen Plays, Inc., headed by Stanley Kramer.

Bagdad Theatre in Seattle Is Bought

SEATTLE, Wash., May 22.—The Bagdad Theatre, in the Ballard district of Seattle, closed yesterday after 20 years of continuous operation. On May 29 Frank L. Newman, Jr., who leased the theatre in December, 1945, from Jensen and Von Herberg, will reopen the house as the Ballard.

The "Bagdad" name is retained by Jensen and Von Herberg who announced last night that they will transfer their policy at that theatre to their Roxy Theatre in Ballard. When conditions permit, they added, they plan to erect a new Bagdad theatre in that district.

RKO - Boston Halts Stage Show Policy

BOSTON, May 22.—With the decision of the RKO-Boston Theatre to discontinue stage shows, effective today, Boston is now on an all-film basis.

According to management statements, the new policy at the Boston will be in force for at least the summer months. Meanwhile, "The Best Years of Our Lives" continues at the house.

NBC Gets License for NYC Video Station

WASHINGTON, May 22.—The Federal Communications Commission has granted the National Broadcasting Co. a license for a new experimental television relay station in the New York City area.

The FCC also licensed an experimental television station in Brooklyn to the Sherran Metallic Corp., and granted Scripps-Howard Radio, Inc., a construction permit for a new experimental television relay broadcasting station in the Cleveland area.

Washer Nourished En Route to Para.

James A. Mulvey and Lynn Farnol of Samuel Goldwyn Prod. were hosts yesterday at a luncheon at Chateaubriand for Ben Washer, who leaves the company June 1 to become home office publicity manager for Paramount.

Others present were: S. Barret McCormick, Red Kann, Terry Ramsaye, Abel Green, Chester Bahn, Sherwin Kane, James Jerauld and Jack Harrison.

Hitchcock Firm Out For Releasing Deal

Having arranged for financing of their new company, Transatlantic Pictures Corp., with Bankers Trust here, Alfred Hitchcock and Sidney Bernstein will leave for the Coast today to continue negotiations with the major companies for distribution. "Rope" and "Under Capricorn" are the first two slated by the new company. Studio space also is being negotiated.

Fla. State Theatres Honor Circuit Head

JACKSONVILLE, May 22.—A Frank Rogers Spring Festival Celebration is currently being observed by the entire Florida State Theatres circuit.

Rogers, head of the circuit, is celebrating his 40th year in show business.

Much Ado in Ohio As 'Repeat' Opens

ZANESVILLE, O., May 22.—Eagle-Lion made this town and a number of press representatives conscious of one film tonight, its "Repeat Performance," with a klieg-light premiere at the Liberty, Weller and Quimby Theatres. Zanesville is the home of Richard Basehart, co-star of the picture.

State and city officials were guests of Mayor William G. Watson at the event, marked by an assortment of standard promotional devices and some new ones.

Parades, beauty contests, radio interviews, street decorations, airplane stunting, special editions of local newspapers, displays in the shopping districts and advertising tie-ups were put to use in beating the drums for the new picture.

Hollywood was represented by Basehart, starlets Chili Williams and Frances Rafferty, and comedian Benny Rubin. Louis Bromfield, novelist, represented Bryan Foy, Eagle-Lion vice-president in charge of production, as master of ceremonies at social functions in connection with the premiere.

The campaign was handled by John Woodward, city manager for Zanesville Theatres, Inc.; Jerry Pickman, Eagle-Lion assistant director of advertising and publicity; Arthur Jeffrey, exploitation manager; and exploiteers George Bennett, Robert Condon and Peter Bayes, all under the direction of Max Youngstein, director of advertising and publicity.

Lab Deadlock

(*Continued from page* 1)

fused to discuss certain "gross inequities." Both said that the union had rejected a 15 per cent wage increase offered by the companies. Francavilla added that the union seeks parity with the West Coast laboratory scales, which would include a differential for the night crews.

Francavilla said that the "gross inequities" included work done on multiple printing machines. "Some of these companies," he charged, "are a little bit selfish. Those who have the advantage want to keep it for themselves."

Any wage agreement reached would be retroactive to January, and the retroactive pay now runs into "hundreds of thousands of dollars," according to Francavilla. The union's demands would mean about a 41 per cent average increase.

The last negotiations were held on May 7. A union membership meeting held last week approved rejection of the companies' last offer. Meanwhile, normal production continues in the laboratories, according to McMahon.

Bidding 'Boomerang'

(*Continued from page* 1)

good lines and choice opportunities for acting, while lesser players are left with little to say or do.

British and other foreign made pictures do not rate too well with the public in the Midwest, Durwood added. British films, he believes, will only attain a measure of success in that section of the country if they are produced more in line with the entertainment standard of Hollywood productions. "For one thing," he said, "British producers must learn how to appeal" to American humor.

Reviews

"Repeat Performance"

(*Eagle-Lion*)

"REPEAT PERFORMANCE" is of major caliber, impressively mature in its fashioning of a difficult theme. Louis Hayward and Joan Leslie are the stars. The commercial outlook for it is bright.

The plot is heavyweight drama, which manages to avoid unrealism where subject matter suggests it. Always interesting, intermittently tense and engrossing, one of its principal characters, Miss Leslie, re-lives the year whose conclusion is marked by her murder of her husband, Hayward.

Upon that foundation is developed the tale of a diabolical sort of character whose conduct makes the destruction, either mental or physical, of his devoted wife appear imminent. He, a one-time successful playwright, chooses another woman, alcohol and any other convenient means of distressing his mate. She, an outstanding actress, constantly offers her love, whereas abuse of the most vile sort is her reward.

The picture begins, and it should be seen from the beginning, on New Year's Eve with the husband's murder. In a thinly-veiled dramatic contrivance, the wife's wish for the opportunity to live the year over again, making certain corrections that might bring her husband back to her, is granted. The calendar is turned back but the 12 months are much the same, except for the conclusion.

The supporting players are competent and include Richard Basehart, Virginia Field, Tom Conway, Natalie Schafer and Benay Venuta. Walter Bullock's screenplay is based on a William O'Farrell novel and Alfred Werker directed for producer Aubrey Schenck. Bryan Foy was in charge of production.

The picture is objectionable only where excessive drinking is depicted. However, the somber character of the theme makes it adult screen fare.

Running time, 93 minutes. Release date, May 22, 1947. GENE ARNEEL

"Thunder Mountain"

(*RKO Radio*)

WHILE not deviating from basic story pattern, and, for that matter, it is not expected to, "Thunder Mountain" is an intelligently proportioned combination of plot substance and six-gun activity, carefully interwoven; it is a good western. Tim Holt takes top billing in Norman Houston's screenplay, based on a Zane Grey story, and appearing with him are Martha Hyer, Richard Martin, Virginia Owen, Steve Brodie, and others.

Kept rolling at a good clip is a yarn about a renewal of an old feud between Holt and Miss Hyer's family. A plot is afoot to wrest Holt's property which, as known only to the badmen, has taken on new value because of an irrigation company's interest in it. Herman Schlom produced, Lew Landers directed.

Running time, 60 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set. G. A.

CSU Local Withdraws From Negotiations

HOLLYWOOD, May 22.—Set Decorators Local No. 1421, member of the striking Conference of Studio Unions, today walked out of its first meeting with a labor committee representing the major producers, when Charles S. Boren, producers' labor executive, declined to negotiate for two unions classifications "because there is a petition before the National Labor Relations Board filed by the IATSE which seeks representation over these two classifications." The positions involved are those of interior decorators and assistants.

The IATSE petition, signed by International representative Roy M. Brewer on behalf of Local No. 44, was filed this morning, petitioning for an election in the major studios to determine the proper bargaining agency. A similar petition was also filed on behalf of IATSE Local No. 789, asking an election to determine jurisdiction over work claimed by the International Association of Machinists Local No. 1185, which has been observing CSU picket lines.

The producers' labor unit expressed a willingness today to negotiate for Local No. 1421's 12 other classifications.

Nelson Due Tomorrow

HOLLYWOOD, May 22.—Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will fly to New York Saturday, and is slated to return here June 4.

'Freedom Train'

(*Continued from page* 1)

program, speakers outlined the Foundation's aim and operations. In the afternoon the group held a program discussion session at the Hotel Statler.

High on the list of the industry's contribution to the campaign, which will launch the train on a year-long 23,000-mile tour next September, will be production of a two-reel documentary, a three-minute trailer, and a program of 16mm. films, to be ready for distribution in September.

In the absence of President Truman, Attorney General Tom Clark welcomed the group of more than 100. Speaking for the President, Clark told the group that Mr. Truman, as an American citizen, was grateful to them "for undertaking this highly commendable project."

Other speakers at the meeting were Thomas D'Arcy Brophy, president of the Foundation, who commended the industry's contribution to the program; Winthrop Aldrich, chairman, and Louis A. Novins, vice-president and secretary.

Guests from the industry who attended today's conference were: Eric Johnston, Barney Balaban, Irving Berlin, Nate Blumberg, Ned Depinet, Jack Kirsch, Carter Barron, Jack Kapp, Edward Arnold, William Wyler, Spyros P. Skouras, Frank Stanton, Fred Wehrenberg, Nicholas Schenck and Albert Warner. Ned Shugrue is campaign manager for the Foundation, and Richard Condon, publicity director.

Favor Britain

(*Continued from page* 1)

calling a special meeting of his board of directors here Wednesday to canvass the situation and obtain the views of member companies.

Barney Balaban, Paramount president, made the subject a principal part of his address to Paramount theatre partners in meeting at Arrowhead Springs, Cal., recently.

Rank and his associates take the position that dollar return on British films in this market is secondary for the time being, at least, to playing time. Given access to American screens, they say, they are willing to let the financial results speak for themselves.

The MPA finds the subject of immediate interest to itself in its dealing on behalf of the industry abroad. It faced difficult situations in France and elsewhere recently and problems even more acute are potentially present in the British market. It needs "ammunition" of the sort that ready playing time for British pictures here would furnish if it is to combat effectively further restrictions upon American films in Britain, it is pointed out.

Circuit executives make it clear that they do not intend to book product of foreign origin which is inferior to available American product. They cite Rank's own reply to queries concerning United Artists' complaints of unsatisfactory playing time for its product on Rank's Odeon Circuit in England.

Rank remarked: "We have to play the pictures that bring in the most revenue."

However, all asserted without qualification that they were in favor of more and better playing time as British pictures improve in audience acceptability here and expressed themselves as willing to give a "doubtful" British picture the benefit of the doubt. They are aware of the gains being made in production quality by Britain and they are aware, too, of their own stake in the reciprocal necessities of the British and American industries, they declared.

Office Guild

(*Continued from page* 1)

ment levied for a local defense fund. The demands will be made in line with wage re-opening clauses, although the contracts with the companies will not expire until September, 1948.

The companies include Loew's, Inc.; Marcus Loew Booking Agency; Loew's International Corp.; 20th Century-Fox Films Corp.; 20th Century-Fox International Corp.; Movietone News, Inc.; RKO Radio Pictures Corp.; Paramount Pictures, Inc.; Paramount Pictures International Corp.; Paramount Music Corp.; Paramount Maintenance; Paramount Laboratory; Famous Music Corp.; Columbia Pictures Corp.; Columbia Pictures International Corp.; United Artists Corp.; Republic Pictures, Inc., and National Screen Service.

Mrs. Anna Gleicher, 77

Funeral services were held at the Riverdale Memorial Chapel here yesterday for Mrs. Anna Gleicher, 77, mother of William Gleicher, head of M-G-M's home office theatre auditing department. Mrs. Gleicher died in New York on Wednesday after a short illness. Interment was at Mt. Hebron Cemetery, Queens.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 102 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, MAY 26, 1947 TEN CENTS

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK, N. Y.
(6 COPIES)

Names . . . *in Today's News*

HAROLD FIELD, operator of the St. Louis Park Theatre, Minneapolis, and head of the Pioneer Circuit in Iowa, has been elected chairman of the Motion Picture Foundation for the Minneapolis area. Roy Miller, Universal-International branch manager in Minneapolis, has been named vice-chairman; William Elson, independent exhibitor at Detroit Lakes, Minn., has been elected trustee representing the Northwest unit on the Foundation's national board.

Other MPF Minneapolis area officers are: Harry B. French, president of Minnesota Amusement Co., treasurer, and Stanley Kane, North Central Allied director, executive secretary.

Copelan Named Head of WB Latin-American Theatres

Herb Copelan, Warner Theatres home office executive, has been placed in charge of the company's Latin-American theatres, under supervision of Harry M. Kalmine, president and general manager of the circuit, and he has left for Lima, Peru, on his first inspection trip.

Copelan also will visit Bogota, Colombia, where Warners recently acquired a theatre; Havana, where a new house is now under construction, and Mexico City, where another new house is planned. Copelan handled all Warner theatres in Atlantic City before the war, and for the past few years has been identified with New York Metropolitan and other Warner theatre operations from the home office.

Clark Appoints Donaldson Boston-New Haven Manager

Thomas J. Donaldson, for 20 years Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer sales executive, has been named PRC district manager for the territory covering Boston and New Haven, by Ralph H. Clark, general sales manager.

Donaldson replaces Al Herman, who last week was promoted to district manager for the Albany-Boston district.

Smith Leaves SMPE Post To Enter Own Business

Harry Smith, Jr., executive secretary of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers and editor of the Society's *Journal* for the past four years, will leave the organization on July 1 to go into business for himself.

Smith joined the Society as executive secretary in March, 1943, after being associated with the MPPDA for several years.

NY Case Shift To Washington Seen June 9th

Formal transfer of litigation of the Government's industry anti-trust suit from New York to Washington is expected to be effected on June 9 when the U. S. Supreme Court is due to announce whether it will accept jurisdiction of the case, according to film attorneys who have returned to New York from the Capital. The lawyers have filed the companies' "points relied on" documents with the upper court.

It was said that the jurisdiction announcement had been looked for on June 2 but an accumulation of cases on file has made the June 9 date more

(*Continued on page 7*)

Levy to Ask For Tax Cut

WASHINGTON, May 25. — The House Ways and Means Committee has received a request from the MPTOA to be heard on the question of Federal admission tax reduction and has scheduled the association's general counsel, Herman Levy, for testimony on Tuesday, June 3.

At the same time, the committee

(*Continued on page 7*)

Cameramen Here Get 25% Wage Increase

New York Cameramen, Local No. 644, IATSE, have been granted a 25 per cent wage increase from major production companies, Pat Casey, who had negotiated for the companies, disclosed here on Friday.

The lensmen handle general production assignments with newsreel work excluded.

Presentation Today Of Quigley Awards

Ivan Ackery of Famous Players-Canadian Corp., Vancouver, B. C., grand prize winner of the silver plaque, in the "Quigley Awards for Showmanship for 1946," and Nathan Wise, RKO Theatres, Cincinnati, second prize winner of the bronze plaque, will arrive in New York today for the presentation of the plaques in the office of Martin Quigley, this afternoon before a group of industry leaders. The prize-winners will be entertained this evening for dinner and the theatre, "Annie Get You Gun," by W. R. Ferguson, manager of exploitation for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Other events and entertainment for the visitors will run through Thursday, when Wise will return to Cincinnati. Ackery will spend the Memorial Day holiday in New York.

"The Perils of Pauline"

[Paramount] — One for the Money

THE irrepressible Betty Hutton never delivered a better performance and probably never had a vehicle better customed for her explosive talents than "The Perils of Pauline." This is a first-rate show, going from laugh to roar to romance and ending on a completely satisfying dramatic note. It is one for the money.

The title, as practically everyone is aware, is that of the famed serial in which Pearl White of historic renown was starred. Around that title there purports to be told the story of Miss White herself. Script has its day, naturally, but there is enough of the true story here to make resemblance more than incidental.

All this is fixed on the calendar of 30 years ago. Miss Hutton, in the title role, works in a sweat shop, has a violent "yen" for the stage, breaks in through Constance Collier, goes on tour with a broken-down Shakespearian troupe headed by John Lund with whom Betty falls in love and breaks off in anger. Through a lucky circumstance, Miss Collier gets a film job with Artcraft Pictures. Through a freakier circumstance, Miss Hutton also gets a job after kicking a lion under the impression it was a dog. She establishes herself as the serial queen, becomes famous, seeks to retrieve Lund who returns temporarily and quits when we enter the war in 1918. Serials slide toward their decline, and with them Miss Hutton who goes to Paris where a stage accident ends her professional career.

(*Continued on page 7*)

65% Increase In Prices Of Admission

10% Rise Over First Quarter of Last Year

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, May 25. — U. S. theatre admission prices are 65 per cent above the index normal of 100 which was established by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for 1935 through 1939, figures released by the bureau for the first quarter of 1947 show. This percentage compares with a 55 per cent above-normal average for the first quarter of 1946.

The index, which at the end of 1946 stood at 164, rose to 165 in January and continued at that point through February and March. Figures are arrived at on the basis of statistics collected and tabulated monthly by the Bureau from first, second and third-run theatres located in down-

(*Continued on page 7*)

RKO Corp. Net Is $2,270,683

Consolidated net profit of Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corp. and subsidiary companies for the first quarter of 1947 was $2,270,683, after taxes and all other charges, equivalent to approximately 58 cents per share on the 3,899,912 shares of common stock outstanding at the end of that quarter. This compares with a consolidated net of $3,675,954 for the first quarter of 1946, equivalent to 97 cents per share on the 3,791,661 shares outstanding at the end of such quarter.

L. Elliman, of Odeon, Arrives in New York

Over-all operation of American theatres will be studied by Louis Elliman, managing director of the Odeon Circuit in Eire, and by E. H. Lundy, director of theatres for Gaumont-Brit-

(*Continued on page 3*)

4 Reviews Today

"The Perils of Pauline," page 1; "Winter Wonderland," "Bells of San Angelo" and "Oregon Trail Scouts," page 6.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES P. CUNNINGHAM

"DUEL IN THE SUN" has been named as grounds for a new trial in a triangle murder case in Providence.

Defense counsel for Mrs. Julia Greene, 37, of Pawtucket, who was found guilty of second degree murder in connection with the street shooting of the woman for whom her husband is said to have left home, asked for a new trial on the grounds that the jury had seen "Duel" during the trial.

"'Duel,'" said defense attorney William Goldberg, "contained much shooting, killing, violence and quarreling of a nature calculated to inflame and prejudice the jury against the defendant, and wherein appeared pearl-handled revolvers visibly similar to an exhibit introduced by the State."

▽

Fourteen persons were in the immediate film vault of the Minerva Film Building in Rome, when that flash-fire and explosion struck recently, and not one was killed. Yet, killed or seriously injured were all other persons on the same floor and on the four floors above and below.

▽

Recent mention in this column of the uniqueness of the names of concertman Yehudi Menuhin and of his sister, concert-gal Hephzibah Menuhin, brings Sam (United Artists) Cohen's nomination for the most intriguing name, in the person of Fernando O'Shanahan Bravo De Laguna, UA's agent in the Canary Islands.

▽

Neighborhood (Richmond, Virginia) Theatres' Dan Wilkinson concludes that a bank is an institution where one can borrow money if he can present sufficient evidence to show that he doesn't need it.

▽

To hear the editors of the trade publication *Tool Engineer* tell it, theatres and other places of business in the South are heading into a future of prosperity, for "the war (World War II) left the South bursting at its seams . . . full of itself and the future."

And to illustrate the long, hard road the Southern States have traveled in their "about face" from "economic problems," they cite Henry W. Grady's description of a late 19th century funeral in Georgia.

Grady said that a "one gallus" fellow was buried "in the midst of a marble quarry; they cut through solid marble to make his grave; and yet the little tombstone they put above his grave was from Vermont. They buried him in the heart of a pine forest, and yet the pine coffin was imported from Cincinnati. They buried him within touch of an iron mine, and yet the nails in his coffin and the iron in the shovel that dug his grave were imported from Pittsburgh. They buried him by the side of the best sheep-grazing country on earth, and yet the wool in the coffin bands were brought from the North. The South didn't furnish a thing for that funeral."

Except the corpse and the hole in the ground!

Personal Mention

GEORGE D. BURROWS, Monogram and Allied Artists executive vice-president, is due here this week to join STEVE BROIDY, president of the companies.

•

DR. LAURENCE B. TIPTON, Warner home office executive, who served during the war as director of manpower conservation education program, was awarded a citation and Army Commendation Ribbon Saturday.

•

SID BLUMENSTOCK, 20th Century-Fox assistant exploitation chief, made a stopover in Detroit en route back to New York from the Midwest.

•

HERMAN GOLDBERG, Warner exchanges' purchasing agent, has returned here after a two-week tour of Midwest branch offices.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, has returned here from Los Angeles.

•

NAT TURBERG, Northio city manager, Hamilton, O., has returned there from a Florida vacation.

•

HAL DANSON, Eagle-Lion advertising manager, has returned to his desk after several days' illness.

•

MARCELLO GIROSI, Super Films president, here, is en route to France and Italy.

•

JOE LEVINE, of Discovery Pictures, here, has returned from Washington.

HAL ROACH is expected to reach New York from the Coast on Wednesday for conferences with United Artists executives. He will fly in his own plane, accompanied by Mrs. Roach.

•

SID LAIRD, A1-Dun Amusement Co. general manager, has returned to his headquarters in West Point, Ga., after a trip to Birmingham.

•

MRS. HENRY V. LAZARUS, Lazarus Circuit owner and operator, has returned to New Orleans from a 10-day trip to New York.

•

ROY FLICKEN, Exhibitors Poster Exchange manager, New Orleans, has returned from a two-week stay in Los Angeles.

•

PAUL MILBERGER, operator of the Gauntier Theatre, Kansas City, has been elected to the local Chamber of Commerce.

•

FANNY VOSS, Paramount head inspector at the Cincinnati branch, has celebrated her 31st year with the company.

•

EDDIE MOROY has been appointed assistant manager of the Majestic, Reade circuit house in Perth Amboy, N. J.

•

WILLIAM Z. PORTER, contract manager at the Monogram studio, has returned to Hollywood from Chicago.

Newsreel Parade

THE Duke and Duchess of Windsor on a visit to England made newsreel news in the current releases. Also covered is a bathing beauty contest, a circus school for kids and a variety of sports and human interest items. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 77—E. U. S. Navy visits Alexandria. In London, King, Queen and Princesses ride to Guild Hall for luncheon. Duke and Duchess of Windsor visit Britain. Chicago: steel plants have open house. Children of circus performers learn the ropes early. Florida mermaids compete for title. Sports: golf, horse racing in Italy, fishing, baseball.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 275—Labor peace brings boon in nation's steel industry. U. S. fleet holds open house for visitors in Alexandria. Soviet life revealed in films. Circus school for kids. Queen of mermaids crowned in underwater beauty pageant. Baseball: glass backstop. Italy's oldest horserace.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 78—Baseball's glass backstop. Fur fashion: milady looks ahead. A $100,000,000 stamp show. France's great power project.

RKO PATHE, No. 80—Duke and Duchess of Windsor in England. Fifth Avenue torchlight parade for New York Infirmary. Industrial fair in Brussels. Films of Russian collective farms. Glass backstop for baseball. Golf: Walker Cup. School for circus kids.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 41—Rome studio fire kills 26. Martha Thoren, Swedish dramatic star, arrives in the U. S. Duke and Duchess of Windsor visit England. Gandhi conducts prayer meeting in India. Circus kids learn acrobatics. Florida stages underwater bathing beauty contest. Glass baseball backstop. Baby braves knife tossing in mother's knife throwing act. U. S. wins Walker Cup.

US to Pick Films To Teach Germans

WASHINGTON, May 25.—Asserting that the U. S. will carefully supervise German films for export to this country to block "any element of Nazi propaganda," Rep. Gordon McDonough, of California, has disclosed that, according to a letter from Secretary of War Patterson, the U. S. was fostering a self-sustaining program of German film production in order to expedite export of U. S. films to Germany.

"In order to educate the German people on democratic life," the Secretary's letter said, McDonough added, "certain American films will be shipped in dealing with the American form of government." No German films have been imported by this country, as yet, he continued, nor is there any likelihood of it in the near future. "There is no question about the fact that we will be critical about the whole thing," McDonough said.

Meanwhile, it was learned that the War Department's report on the status and plans for German production has apparently been blocked by Assistant Secretary of War Petersen. It is understood that a release, awaiting clearance, lay all day Friday on his desk. In the evening an announcement was made that it would not be issued. No other date was given when the release is to be expected.

Flynn Testimonial In Chicago, June 30

CHICAGO, May 25. — The Chicago film and theatre trade's testimonial dinner to Jack Flynn, who is retiring as Midwestern sales manager for Loew's, will be held at the Continental Hotel here on June 30, the committee on arrangements, headed by Ed Brunnell, decided at a meeting here.

William F. Rodgers, Loew's sales chief, and other home office executives, are expected to attend.

Goldstone Is Here On Equipment Deal

Phil Goldstone is in New York from the Coast in connection with the marketing of Phonovision, a consumer device which he states will project sound motion pictures from a record.

While en route East, Goldstone added, he made a product deal with Encyclopedia Britannica during a stopover in Chicago.

Seattle MPF Forming

SEATTLE, May 25.—Organization of a local branch of the Motion Picture Foundation has been assigned to Seattle trustees of the Foundation. Definite action by the group will be taken as soon as its report is received and approved by the national MPF, according to James Hone, Seattle manager of the Independent Theatre Association.

SRO Western Sales Meeting Completed

HOLLYWOOD, May 25.—First meeting of the Western district sales force of the Selznick Releasing Organization has been completed at the SRO's headquarters, here.

The meeting was presided over by John Howard, Western district sales chief. In attendance were the following branch managers: Jim Welsh, Seattle; Harry Hunsaker, San Francisco; Charles Duer, Denver; Howard Cahoon, Salt Lake City; Paul Walsh, Los Angeles. Also, Larry Doyle, office manager in San Francisco, and Gail Parker, office manager of the Los Angeles branch. Morris Abrahams represented the publicity department.

"Duel in the Sun" headlined discussions. Plans were completed to book "Duel" within the next few weeks in every town desiring to play it, so that the 137 prints now being utilized on the West Coast could then be released for multiple showings in Midwestern states. Tentative date for the multiple day-and-date bookings in the Denver and Salt Lake territories was set for July 3.

Asher to London

HOLLYWOOD, May 25.—Irving Asher, producer, has left here by American Airlines to New York on his way to London.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Inferior Product Would Increase Quota, Says O'Brien

The British government would be "encouraged" to add further quota restrictions if Hollywood should send many inferior pictures to England, [illegible] O'Brien, British member of Parliament and general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes, warned Friday. He pointed out that since a drain of dollars exists with top product, the British Government would not be inclined to permit such a drain with poor product.

O'Brien, who arrived here on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*, added, however, that he felt it would be a "major blunder for the British government to prevent American films from reaching England." He said: "In the main, I am opposed to any additional restrictions being imposed on American films. But the British public expect Hollywood to maintain and improve the quality of American films."

Technicians Exchange

O'Brien said he is here to negotiate an agreement on the exchange of British and American technicians with Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, and to work out with Walsh the establishment of an Anglo-American trade union committee, in line with the present development in Europe of plans for a federation of theatrical unions in France, Czechoslovakia and Russia. O'Brien believes the American and British theatrical unions should participate in such a federation.

O'Brien said he will hold a joint press conference with Walsh this week, at which further details will be given on both the exchange plan and the federation. He remarked that he felt he could "be of assistance in overcoming the jurisdictional problem in Hollywood," by giving Walsh details of the latest jurisdictional agreements reach in England. His official discussions with Walsh began Friday.

Nationalization 'Not Practicable'

O'Brien said he did not believe that nationalization of the British film industry is likely to occur, adding that he did not believe it is "practicable." However, he went on, in line with the British Labor Party's position, he approved the idea of "a state circuit of theatres in England."

O'Brien met Saturday with Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, to discuss the general problem of exports and imports affecting both the British and American film industries.

He plans to see J. Arthur Rank, but did not disclose what subjects he will discuss with him. O'Brien will remain in this country three weeks, during which he will visit the Coast.

O'Brien Honored at Dinner Given by Eric Johnston

WASHINGTON, May 25.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, gave a dinner party last night here at the Carlton Hotel in honor of Tom O'Brien, British member of Parliament and general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees. Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, accompanied O'Brien on his trip here from New York.

British Producer Is Against 'Stiff' Quota

Opposition to a harsh British quota was expressed Friday by Herbert Wilcox, British producer-director, who arrived here aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth*, with his wife, Anna Neagle, screen star.

Wilcox declared that American films led to the growth of the British film industry. Now that British films show "signs of maturity," there are those who want to kick out U. S. films," Wilcox said, and he believes this policy would be "poor business."

Wilcox will seek distribution arrangements in this country for "The Courtneys of Curzon Street," and "Piccadilly Incident." He will also seek to arrange interchange of British and American stars.

Wyler Will Study Problems Abroad

In an effort to gain a broader view of the problems confronting American films in the world market, Hollywood director William Wyler embarked on a three-month European tour aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth* on Saturday preparatory to assuming his new duties at the Paramount Coast studios.

Wyler, who became associated with Paramount last week when Liberty Films, in which he had been a partner, was acquired by the major company, will make a general survey of the industry in England, France and other European countries.

Wyler believes that motion pictures must serve the interests of a world audience and feels that one cannot make pictures for the world market unless he knows the problems facing people in other countries.

Geraldine Fitzgerald and Leo G. Carroll, both of whom will appear in Hal Wallis' "So Evil, My Love," which is being filmed in England, also sailed Saturday.

Elliman Here

(*Continued from page* 1)

ish Films, and Arthur Brown, booking manager for Gaumont-British, both of London, and all of whom arrived here Friday aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth*. Another arrival was George F. Gunn, head of the camera department of Technicolor, Ltd., also of London.

Elliman said that the 16 theatres in his circuit showed a slight decline in grosses recently. He will stay here about one week and then will proceed to the Coast.

Lundy said he also wishes to study reactions of the American public to British films. He will visit Washington, Chicago, Denver, San Francisco, Seattle, Vancouver, Toronto and Los Angeles, and will return to England in July. Brown, saying that British theatres "had been static for eight years," said they "need to be brought up-to-date." His trip is designed to establish "in what direction and to what extent" British theatres can be improved. Gunn said that his firm planned to expand.

Neil Replaces Iannuzzi

CHARLOTTE, May 25. — Frank Neil has been added to Warner's sales staff here to replace Ralph Iannuzzi, who was recently made branch manager. Neil was formerly with the Memphis Paramount office and more recently he was in business for himself.

O'Shea and Staff to Paramount in June

E. K. O'Shea and his Liberty Films sales staff here will move to Paramount the latter part of next month upon winding up the affairs of Liberty, which has been acquired by Paramount.

O'Shea's position at Paramount has yet to be defined.

Reorganization of FCC Asked in Bill

WASHINGTON, May 25.—A bill to reorganize the Federal Communications Commission and rewrite the FCC act has been introduced in the Senate by Sen. White (R., Me.) chairman of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, to which the bill was referred.

The measure would divide the seven-man commission into two sections, one to deal with radio and television, the other taking care of telephone and telegraph matters. The chairman, who would be elected by the commission instead of appointed by the President, would be free to deal with administrative and coordinating matters.

The White bill would write into law a number of limitations on chain broadcasting and station ownership. It would also restrict FCC procedure in handling applications and licenses, afford further protection against censorship over programs or station operation by the Government, and insure equal opportunity to use radio facilities in political campaigns and in discussions of public questions and separate fact from editorial opinion.

In introducing the bill, Sen. White said that the country is in great need of new radio legislation. "The art is more than a quarter of a century old", he stated, "and has made gigantic strides technically, but it is operating under a law which for the most part is nearly 20 years old."

Claim Cost-Cut for Spot Video Shows

CHICAGO, May 25.—A new one-minute television film spot for video was unveiled here by Television Advertising Productions, a Chicago video package and consulting company. Originated and designed by Jack Gibney, producer for TAP, the film spots not only feature vocal commercial messages coming from animals and puppet figures, but are said to also hit a new low in cost. Whereas the quoted price for one-minute film spots in this section is about $400, TAP's new spot can be sold for a minimum of about $175.

Young, Krim to Meet With J. Arthur Rank

Robert R. Young, head of Pathe Industries, and Arthur B. Krim, president of Eagle-Lion Films, left here for Hollywood over the weekend for conferences with J. Arthur Rank, who is associated with Eagle-Lion in a mutually-reciprocal Anglo-American distribution deal.

The conferences will be held at Eagle-Lion Studios, with Rank also attending screenings of forthcoming product which his organization will distribute in the British Empire.

Permits Granted For 17 Stations

WASHINGTON, May 25.—Seven companies were given FCC conditional grants for new FM stations and three others received authorized construction permits. Also, applications were granted for the construction of five standard broadcast stations.

Conditional grants went to the American Quartz Labs, Inc., Camden; Trent Broadcast Corp., Trenton, and Pocono Broadcasting Co., Stroudsburg, Pa., all for Class A stations; News Publishing Co., Rome, Ga., and Tri-State Broadcasting Co., Sioux Falls, S. D., for class B stations; and Parker Bros., Inc., Ahoskie, N. C., and Wm. F. Huffman, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., for class B stations in lieu of class A as previously authorized.

Central California Broadcasters, Berkeley, Cal.; Portsmouth Star Star Publishing Corp., Portsmouth, Va., and Surety Life Ins. Co., Columbia, S. C., were given construction permits for class B FM stations.

The FCC approved applications for construction of new standard broadcast stations, one each for Halifax Broadcasting Co., South Boston, Va.; The Voice of Nevada's Capital, Carson City, Nev.; John J. Laux, Niagara Falls; Louie L. Morris, Hartwell, Ga.; and Big Island Broadcasting Co., Ltd., Hilo, Hawaii.

FCC Renews License of WB Radio Station on Coast

WASHINGTON, May 25.—The Federal Communications Commission has granted a renewal of license to Warner Brothers Broadcasting Corp., Los Angeles, for the period ending May 1, 1950.

At the same time Metropolitan Broadcasting and Television, Inc., New York City, was granted a renewal of license for the period ending June 1, 1948. Similar license renewals were given to Columbia Broadcasting for two FM stations, one in Chicago and one in New York.

CBS in Television Broadcasters Assn.

The Television Broadcasters Association on Friday accepted the membership application of Columbia Broadcasting. Both had been at odds on Columbia's petition for approval of commercial color television. Lawrence W. Lowman and Leonard H. Hole will represent Columbia in the association. It was the last of the large networks to join TBA.

Video House on Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, May 25.—Plans for the construction of a new 35-story downtown office building are disclosed with the purchase of land for $250,000. The building will be occupied chiefly by insurance firms, but will feature a motion picture theatre and a television theatre. A push-button garage for automatic parking of automobiles will also be incorporated.

Sarnoff to RMA Meet

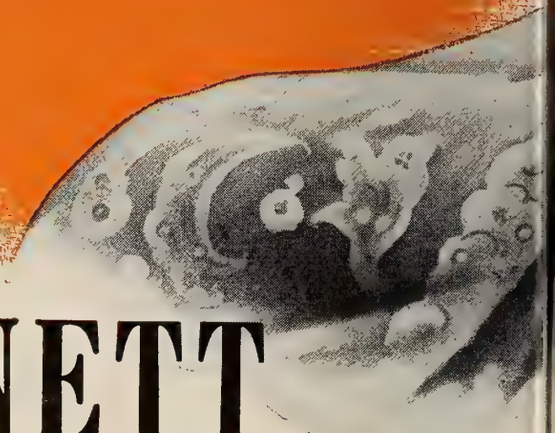
David Sarnoff, president of Radio Corp. of America, will address the annual dinner of the Radio Manufacturers Association on June 12 in Chicago. The association's annual meeting will be held June 10-12 at the Stevens Hotel in that city.



"DON'T BE A SUCKER SHE LOVES ONLY MONEY AND ME... IN THAT ORDER!"

A wife without a conscience...
a husband without illusions... and
a stranger who dared intrude!...
Strange, striking drama, with the star
of "Woman In The Window"
and "Scarlet Street".

RKO presents



JOAN BENNETT

ROBERT RYAN · CHARLES BICKFORD

in

THE WOMAN ON

RKO RADIO PICTURES



Directed by JEAN RENOIR

Screen Play by Frank Davis *and* Jean Renoir

Unger to Leave for Chicago Sales Talks

J. J. Unger, United Artists general sales manager, will leave here for Chicago tomorrow for sales talks with Rud Lohrenz, Midwest district manager. Meanwhile, Edward M. Schnitzer, Eastern-Canadian sales manager, has returned to New York from Philadelphia after conferences with Mark N. Silver, Pennsylvania-Washington district chief. Maury Orr, Western sales manager, is in Los Angeles for talks with W. E. Callaway, Western district manager.

M G M Gets Official Byrd-Navy Footage

WASHINGTON, May 25.—M-G-M has been granted rights to theatrical release of a picture using official Navy motion picture footage of the recent Byrd Antarctic Expedition, the Navy Department announces.

Several producers responded to an invitation to view some 330,000 feet of black and white and color films of the expedition, according to the Navy, but M-G-M was the only one to submit a concrete proposal.

Schultz to Conduct Commonwealth Meet

KANSAS CITY, May 25.—Clarence A. Schultz, president of Commonwealth Theatres, will conduct a meeting of Commonwealth's Southern division at Harrison, Ark., on May 29. At this meeting, announcement is expected of special duties to which Rex Barret, for several years manager of the Southern division, and recently resigned, will be assigned. A successor to Barret as Southern division manager is also to be named.

E-L Sales Meeting Held in Chicago

CHICAGO, May 25.—Eagle-Lion held a sales convention at the Blackstone Hotel here yesterday and today, conducted by Harold Dunn, assistant general manager.

Alfred W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager, attended along with 40 Midwestern exchange representatives. There was a screening of "Repeat Performance."

Services for Mrs. Zeller

Funeral services will be held here today for Mrs. Johanna Zeller, mother of Carl Clausen, budget comptroller of Paramount's advertising department, at the John J. Healy Funeral Parlors in Brooklyn. Mrs. Zeller died last Thursday after an illness of three weeks. Burial will be held tomorrow at Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn. She is survived by her husband, Leo Zeller and sons Carl and Fred.

Goldwyn Aide Here

Emmet Dalton, sales representative for Samuel Goldwyn Productions in Great Britain, has arrived here from London for conferences with James A. Mulvey, company president. He leaves this week for the Coast, where he will confer with Goldwyn.

L'Anglais Resigns

MONTREAL, May 25.—Paul L'Anglais, organizer of Quebec Productions Corp., Ltd., has resigned as president of the producing company. Rene Germain, Montreal investment banker, was elected to succeed him by the company's directors.

Reviews

"Winter Wonderland"

(Republic)

WITH a fashionable winter resort the locale of this romantic comedy, the customer is treated to a number of scenes of skiers skimming gracefully over undulating slopes. Also for the special joy of winter sport fans, are a succession of outdoor production numbers.

Lynne Roberts is presented in the story as an outdoor-loving farmer's daughter who catches the fancy of Charles Drake, a ski instructor at a nearby hotel. The plot gets underway in earnest when Miss Roberts topples into a deep crevice. After being rescued by a torchlight party headed by Drake, she is brought back to the hotel where things take a farcical turn. Presumed to be an heiress, through a mistaken-identity angle, the hotel lavishes luxury upon her. When the awakening comes, there is a headache and a bill for several hundred dollars confronting Miss Roberts.

The screenplay, concocted by Peter Goldbaum, David Chandler, Arthur Marx and Gertrude Purcell, has Miss Roberts getting out of her financial difficulties by winning a ski race with a little loving help from Drake. The cast is rounded out by Eric Blore, the hotel owner, who is in a constant squabble with Roman Bohnen, Miss Drake's father; and Mary Eleanor Donahue, provocative young sister of Miss Drake. Bernard Vorhaus directed; associate producers are Walter Colmes and Henry Sokal.

Running time, 71 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, May 17. MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Bells of San Angelo"

(Republic)

FURTHER justification for Roy Rogers' reputation as No. 1 Western star, *Fame's* poll so proclaimed him, is much in evidence in his latest effort which Republic surrounds with sound Western production values. Done in Trucolor, "Bells of San Angelo" appears earmarked for top returns in the outdoor action market. Its story about silver mining and murder on the Mexican border is likely to make lots of sense, entertainment-wise to all the fans, who are given as a bonus deftly-staged jaw-breaking fisticuffs, lethal pistol blasts and six nicely spotted musical interludes.

Dale Evans is welcome in the top feminine role and Andy Devine does alright as the sheriff, not too bright for humorous purposes. John McGuire, Olaf Hytten, David Sharpe and Fritz Lieber are in support. Edward J. White was associate producer and William Witney directed. Sloan Nibley's screenplay is based on an original by Paul Gangelin.

Running time, 71 minutes. General audience classification. GENE ARNEEL.

"Oregon Trail Scouts"

(Republic)

HERE is a heaping platter of marketable fiction in the best Western tradition, dealing with Red Ryder's (Allan Lane) battling crusade against a standard assortment of culprits aiming to pit some Redskins against the law-abiding palefaces, all concluding on a note of triumph over evil. A little aside has Ryder teaming up with an Indian youngster, Bobby Blake, in what is obviously destined to be a lasting friendship.

Martha Wentworth is a flighty character for comedy with Emmett Lynn. Roy Barcroft, Edmund Cobb, Earle Hodgins and others making adequate showings. Sidney Picker was associate producer and R. G. Springsteen directed the original screenplay by Earle Snell.

Running time, 58 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, May 15. G. A.

Town Asks Damages Of Theatre Owners

ORANGE, Mass., May 25.—The town of Orange has filed a suit for $20,000 against the Garbose Brothers, operators of theatres in Athol and Gardner. Town officials allege that the circuit caused damage to the Town Hall in June, 1945, when it removed film equipment and a projection booth from the building at the termination of its lease.

Adds Third Theatre

CINCINNATI, May 25, — Charles (Bud) Ackerman, who operates the Suburban Sunset and Glenway theatres, has opened the Covedale, a deluxe house in suburban Price Hill.

Dakota Theatre Sold

LAKE ANDES, S. D., May 25. — W. E. Wuest of Lake Andes has purchased the Okey Theatre here from Roy Mundin, theatre operator for the past 27 years.

Del Guidice Sets Up New Film Company

LONDON, May 25.—Filippo Del Guidice, former managing director of Two Cities Films, Ltd., who recently resigned from the J. Arthur Rank production unit, has disclosed that his new company, Pilgrim Pictures, has been organized with £100,000 capital. His plans include five films on his 1948 production schedule starting next January.

3 U-I Films to United

Universal's "Scarlet Street," "Girl on the Spot" and "Because of Him" have been acquired for 16mm distribution by United World, U-I-Rank affiliate.

Griffith Names White

OKLAHOMA CITY, May 25.—Wesley White has been appointed manager of Griffith's new Agnew Theatre.

Astley Made Du Pont Manager of New Unit

Frederick B. Astley has been appointed district manager of the newly established district sales office in Boston of the photo products department of E. I. du Pont de Nemours Co. Formerly Eastern district x-ray sales manager, he is succeeded by William J. Cannon.

Designated as the New England district, the new organization will handle all Du Pont photo products in New England states which were formerly included in the Eastern district.

Popular Cinn. Changes

CINCINNATI, May 25. — Donald Duff, salesman and office manager of the local Popular Pictures branch, has been appointed sales manager. Frank Sheppard, formerly associated with Paramount, has been appointed Popular salesman covering southern Ohio, while Patrick Meadows, operating the Strand Theatre at Dawson Springs, Ky., will handle sales in western Kentucky and southern Indiana. Joseph Goldberg will handle the West Virginia and eastern Kentucky areas.

Owen to Premiere

Hugh Owen, Paramount's Eastern-Southern division manager, and his wife, Arleen Whelan, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Randel, will be among those who will attend the world premiere of "Dear Ruth" at Walter Reade's Mayfair Theatre, Asbury Park, on Thursday.

Beaulac Quits in Quebec

MONTREAL, May 25.—Eugene Beaulac has resigned as secretary of the Quebec Allied Theatrical Industries, an exhibitors' association, to enter another field. Charles Bourassa, who has been doing special work for the association, has temporarily taken over.

Christopher Switches

HOLLYWOOD, May 25.—Jim Christopher has joined Brisacher, Van Nordan and Staff here as creative account executive in its enlarged motion picture division. Christopher was previously with Buchanan and Co. and Foote, Cone and Belding.

McCarthy to Mono.

LOS ANGELES, May 25.—M. J. E. McCarthy has been named branch manager for Monogram, here, by Howard Stubbins, franchise owner, to succeed Marty Solomon, now recuperating from a lengthy illness.

Popolizio in New Post

NEW HAVEN, May 25.—Salvatore Popolizio has been promoted from the ad-sales department of the 20th Century-Fox exchange here, to assistant booker, succeeding Morris Weinstein who has become a PRC salesman.

A Rest Every Tuesday

HAMILTON, May 25. — The Lyric, downtown subsequent-run house, will close on Tuesday each week, "to give employees a well-earned rest."

Named Film Board Head

HARTFORD, May 25.—Dr. Lawrence A. Averill of the Massachusetts State Teachers College, has been reelected president of the Worcester Board of Motion Pictures and Theatre Review.

Offers Settlement of Theatre Stock Suit

CHARLOTTE, May 25.—In order to settle their differences over disposition of theatre stock, H. B. Meiselman offered, during the course of a civil action here in Superior Court, to let Phillip Berler have the choice of taking over either the Manor Theatre, Charlotte, or the Strand in Asheville. Berler would not immediately accept the offer, stating that he preferred to discuss it with E. M. Loew of Boston, who financed Berler's partnership with Meiselman.

The plaintiff Berler was seeking the appointment of a receiver to settle the financial affairs between himself and the defendant.

Torodor Sells Out

MINNEAPOLIS, May 25.—Max Torodor, for 30 years an exhibitor in the lower loop district, and operator of the Ritz, northeast side neighborhood house for the past 24 years, has sold the latter to Elmer Meyers and Sol Fischer for a reported $135,000. Torodor, who recently spent several months in California, plans to make the West Coast his permanent home. Fischer is associated with his father in the operation of the Varsity and Campus, neighborhood houses, Meyers is a newcomer in the local field.

Missouri House Sold

KANSAS CITY, May 25.—Charles H. Potter and his brother S. L. Potter, who at one time owned five neighborhood theatres, and have been in exhibition for 22 years, have sold their Bijou to Arthur Burke, formerly of the Colonia and the Gillham, who has been out of exhibition for two years. The Potters at one time owned and operated the Admiral, Murray, Baltis and Mary Lue, as well as the Bijou.

To Manage Albany Ritz

ALBANY, N. Y., May 25.—Oscar J. Perrin, manager of Albany theatres for 45 years, has been appointed manager of the Ritz, one of two Warner downtown theatres, succeeding Alcide La Flamme, who was transferred to the Strand. George Hutchinson, manager for the Graphic circuit in New England before the war, has been named manager of the Madison, replacing Perrin.

Mass. Theatres Sold

WORCESTER, Mass., May 25.—Champ Amusements Corp. here has purchased the Park Theatre of Spencer, Mass., from Charles M. Kane, while the Markarian Brothers Realty Co. has sold the Opera House block at Milford, Mass., to the Stoughton Theatre Co., owner of the State Theatre, Milford.

Covey in Davis Post

ATLANTA, May 25. — A. B. Covey, former manager of the Temple and Strand theatres in Birmingham, has been named city manager of Wilby-Kincey Theatres in Kingsport, Tenn. Sam Davis, former city manager of the Bonnie Kate and Ritz, Kingsport, has resigned.

Cincinnati Reopening

CINCINNATI, May 25. — The new Heights Theatre, a remodeled theatre which recently was used for other purposes, has been opened by Albert Shane and associates as a double-feature house, with changes four times weekly.

"The Perils of Pauline"

(Continued from page 1)

Finally, Lund a "legit" stage success by this time, returns and the happy ending heaves into sight.

When "The Perils of Pauline" goes rather heavily romantic, it slows down. When it burlesques the acting techniques of three decades ago, it is always funny and often uproarious. When it re-enacts the film-making efforts of those early days, it is not only funny and frequently uproarious, but intensely interesting as well. George Marshall, himself an old-timer in this business, is responsible for a thoroughly expert job of direction which constantly remains alive to the possibilities and he extracts fine values out of a script by P. J. Wolfson and Frank Butler, from a story contributed by the former.

Miss Hutton is provided wtih several vocals where they fit in logically enough and does very nicely in the straight dramatic approaches to the situations confronting her. Billy De Wolfe weaves in and out of the film with commendable results. Miss Collier plays a grand dame of the old theatre to the hilt. William Demarest, while good as the movie director, appears to overdo the part from time to time. Frank Faylen, who manages to deliver good performances on all occasions, does not fail in his one sequence. Lund, as the romantic foil, could have injected much more animation in a generally wooden performance.

If audiences are on their toes, they will catch flashes of such old-timers as William Farnum, Chester Conklin, Paul Panzer, Snub Pollard, James Finlayson, Creighton Hale, Hank Mann, Francis McDonald, Bert Roach and Heinie Conklin. The credit titles, moreover, graciously salute Charles W. Goddard, who wrote "The Perils of Pauline" in its original serial form. Sol C. Siegel produced. It's in Technicolor.

Running time, 96 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, July 4.

RED KANN

Tradeshows Set for Three

M-G-M's "Fiesta," Technicolor musical, will be tradeshown in the Washington branch on June 24, and elsewhere on June 23. "Living in a Big Way" will be screened in Washington on June 10 and at all other branches on June 10. In addition, "Gone With the Wind" will be tradeshown at the San Francisco exchange on May 20.

Tradeshow 'Moss Rose'

"Moss Rose," 20th Century-Fox picture, will be tradeshown in all exchange centers today, with the following exceptions: New York, tomorrow; Des Moines, Wednesday, and Portland, Seattle and Los Angeles, Thursday.

Olson in New Post

CHARLOTTE, May 25.—Everet Olson of Minneapolis has arrived in Charlotte to assume duties as field representative for Paramount, replacing Leonard Allen, who formerly handled both Atlanta and Charlotte territories, but who will now work Atlanta only.

Pass Tax-Repeal Bill

COLUMBUS, O., May 25.—By a vote of 82 to 43, the House of Representatives has passed a bill repealing the present three per cent admission tax and sent it to the Senate. It would become effective Oct. 1.

Another Academy House

COLUMBUS, O., May 25. — Newest theatre in the local Academy circuit, the 1,000-seat Esquire, has opened. This is the eighth in the circuit and the second to be opened within a few weeks, the University having opened in March.

Everett Takes Over Two

CHARLOTTE, May 25.—Everett Enterprises here are taking over the Parr and Imperial Theatres at Lancaster, S. C., as of June 1.

Heads IATSE Local

FALL RIVER, May 25.—George H. Sullivan has been elected chairman of Local No. 424, IATSE, here. Other officers elected are: Joseph Salv, business agent; Raoul Gagnon, secretary; James Coburn, treasurer.

Cudahy License Tax

CUDAHY, Wis., May 25. — Theatre fees, slightly less than originally proposed, have been adopted here by the city council. The schedule now is: $25 for theatres of fewer than 200 seats; $50 for 200 to 499 seats; $75 for more than 500 seats, and $150 for more than 1,000 seats.

Raymon Leaves RKO

KANSAS CITY, May 25. — Mark Raymon has ended a 15-year association with RKO-Radio to enter the air-conditioning business on the Coast. Raymon opened the Eagle-Lion offices here several months ago and was E-L representative in the Omaha, Des Moines and St. Louis areas.

Sochin Leaves Combine

CINCINNATI, May 25. — Louis Wiethe, local circuit operator and president of Theatre Owners Corp., buying and booking agency for local independent exhibitors, is temporarily in charge of the organization's office due to the resignation of Irving Sochin, general manager.

Albee Heads IATSE Unit

HARTFORD, May 25.—Charles Albee has been reelected president of Local No. 486, IATSE, Hartford. Other reelected officers are: Charles North, business agent; Robert Cormier, vice-president; Don McDonald, secretary; Pete DeCarli, recording secretary-treasurer.

Colosseum Names Barker

OMAHA, May 25.—William Barker has been elected president of the Omaha lodge of the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America. I. M. Weiner is vice-president and Leon Mendelson, secretary-treasurer.

Reissue Jolson Film

"Go Into Your Dance," starring Al Jolson, will be reissued by Warner Bros. this summer. The film was originally released in 1935-6.

LaHatte Joins Theatre

ATLANTA, May 25.—Wilner T. LaHatte, Jr., formerly of the *Atlanta Journal*, is now Fox Theatre treasurer.

Urge Publicity for 'Beneficial' Films

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 25.—A panel on motion pictures, radio and the press, in a report at the Mayor's Youth Conference here, sponsored last Thursday and Friday by the Central Coordinating Youth Council of Kansas City, recommended the promotion of good pictures linked to a plan for publicizing and disseminating information on films and radio beneficial to youth. Tom Clark, U. S. Attorney General, addressed the closing session of the conference Friday.

While discussion of motion pictures constituted a small part of the comments, the problem of the conduct of youth at theatres was tied in with discussion of vandalism in the public schools. The film panel also gave attention to objectional types of advertising of pictures which are not in themselves objectionable, and the recreation panel pointed out that while films in Kansas City are subject to regulation, the legitimate stage there operates under no supervision.

Levy Seeks Tax Cut

(Continued from page 1)

slightly juggled its schedule for the hearings. Originally, theatre taxes were to come up next Wednesday and Thursday, but now they will be discussed Thursday, and then Tuesday of the following week. American Theatres Association's Ted Gamble also will be heard, as will Florida Congressman Smathers.

MPA officials expressed doubt that the new schedule would make any more likely Eric Johnston's appearance before the committee, as his present plans call for him to go directly from the West Coast to Milwaukee, where he is scheduled to speak on June 7. No decision has been made yet whether the MPA will file a written brief, have some one substitute for Johnston, or try to have Johnston appear at a still later date.

65% Increase

(Continued from page 1)

town and neighborhood sections of 34 representative cities.

The index for adult prices, which went from 161 in Nov., 1946, to 164 in December, continued to climb in the first quarter of this year, going to 165 in January and February and rising to 166 in March.

Children's price index registered 162 in January, 163 in February, and dropped back to 162 in March. In making the admission price index, adult prices are weighted approximately seven and a half to one against children's prices.

NY Case Shift

(Continued from page 1)

probable. The Supreme Court traditionally discloses decisions on Mondays.

In their "points relied on," all eight appellants from the New York decision held to arguments against the decision which they originally advanced in their "assignments of errors." The latter were the companies' allegations of "substantial questions" in the New York court's ruling.

Rebuilding in Memphis

MEMPHIS, May 25.—The Memphian Theatre, gutted by fire, has been rebuilt, M. A. Lightman, Jr., reports.

FIRST FILM DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

NEW YORK, U.S.A. — THURSDAY

Another U-I hit becomes page one news!

MPA Studies British Films' Playing Time

Directors Discuss Rank's Plea for Better Deals

Board members of the Motion Picture Association met here yesterday with Eric A. Johnston, president, in a discussion of international trade with particular consideration given to J. Arthur Rank's declaration of a week ago that "we will have to have more playing time" for British pictures in the U. S. market.

The meeting is believed to have been the first concerted effort in that direction and will be followed next week by a series of conferences between Rank and Johnston on the Coast. Johnston will leave Washington for Hollywood this weekend.

Last week Rank declared he had

(Continued on page 5)

Argentine Quota Law Is 'Imminent'

Adoption of a 50 per cent quota on foreign film imports by the Argentine government was described here yesterday as "imminent" by Ignacio Kronenberg, a leading independent distributor of that country, who has arrived in New York from Buenos Aires. Legislation for such a quota is now before the Argentine Congress and although President Juan Peron is

(Continued on page 5)

ABPC Aims at World Market Through WB

London, May 21. — Associated British Pictures Corp., in which Warner Brothers has a 37½ per cent interest, is embarking on a new long-term "star-making" policy, thereby hoping, through Warner distribution, to achieve a world market. Last January, Jack Warner disclosed plans for ABPC to produce six pictures which will be shown "throughout the Warner circuit in America and all other theatres in the U. S. and Canada which the WE distribution organization services."

Mochrie to Preside At RKO Convention

RKO Radio's 16th annual sales meeting will be held July 7-9 in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here. It will be presided over by Robert Mochrie, vice-president and general sales manager, and it will be the first national RKO sales convention to be conducted by Mochrie since assuming his present post on Feb. 1, 1946.

Three sales divisions to be represented include the Western and Eastern divisions headed by Nat Levy and Walter Branson, respectively, and the North-South division, headed by Charles Boasberg. District managers, branch managers, salesmen and field men will attend from all of the company's exchange centers in the U. S. and Canada. About 500 delegates are expected.

Winners of the 1947 "Not Deplant Drive" will be announced at the meeting and prizes will be awarded by Ned Depinet, RKO executive vice-president.

Memphis Meet Mon. For Foundation Unit

Memphis, May 21.—A meeting of Variety Club Tent 20 is set for May 26 to form a Memphis committee for a United Picture Foundation unit. The meeting was called by Chief Barker Ben Kohn. M. A. Lightman has sent letters to distributor representatives and to exhibitors urging that they attend.

Postponement of ATA Convention Favored

Further postponement of the first convention of the American Theatres Association since its organization in St. Louis in April, 1946, is favored by a good number of the board members whose views on the subject have been solicited by New York headquarters. Unsettled conditions within the industry because of the New York anti-trust decision and pending appeals is given as the principal reason.

Lewis Quits UA for SRO Post in Europe

Louis Lewis will take charge of all financial and related matters of the Selznick Releasing Organization in the United Kingdom and on the Continent, it was announced here yesterday by Neil F. Agnew, SRO president.

Lewis has resigned as director and secretary of United Artists Corp., London, and affiliated companies, with which he has been connected for over 12 years. Before joining United Artists Lewis was an accountant in the Paris office of Price, Waterhouse and Co.

"The Web"

[*Universal-International*] — Tip Top Entertainment

WITH William Bendix, Vincent Price, Ella Raines and Edmond O'Brien co-starred against an admirably balanced cast, "The Web," first Jerry Bresler production for U-I, and the first screen directorial undertaking by Broadway's Michael Gordon, rates high among the year's best melodramas. Interest holds as tight as a fiddle string from start to finish, with all principals turning in top portrayals. The picture may be expected to prosper as it plays.

The screenplay, by William Bowers and Bertram Millhauser, opens in humorous vein, with O'Brien, a struggling attorney, hiring out to Price, millionaire industrialist, as bodyguard for a fortnight. Almost immediately he saves his employer's life by slaying an ex-convict assailant, and then finds himself under suspicion of murder as policeman Bendix, his personal friend, digs into the dead man's past and fails to discover the million dollars which he is supposed to have stolen. Miss Raines, Price's secretary, finally decides to assist O'Brien in sifting the background, and both are accused of a second murder committed by Price. In contrast to most melodrama, this one lets the audience know the guilty party, but builds suspense by making a case against the innocent seem too tight to be upset.

Production is superb in every respect, from balanced dialogue to richly accoutered sets, the whole equaling tip-top entertainment.

Running time, 91 minutes. General audience classification. May release.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Fabian Group In $15 Million Bid for U. A.

First of Boston Would Finance, If Owners Sell

The First National Bank of Boston, represented by Serge Semenenko, is reliably reported prepared to finance acquisition of United Artists by a syndicate headed by S. H. Fabian, president of the Eastern Seaboard Circuit bearing his name, to the tune of $15,000,000.

Of this total, $10,000,000 would apply to the purchase of the two-thirds interest held by Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin and to the final one-third now held in the company's treasury. The remaining $5,000,000 would be set up as a revolving fund under an arrangement which would make it possible for UA, as distributor, to participate in production financing.

Thus, the Fabian negotiations are not cold. But whether or not the Pickford-Chaplin control will be available for final sale is highly uncertain both partners, down through

(Continued on page 5)

To Report Later On Industry Series

Hollywood, May 21.—Representatives of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, the American Theatres Association, Allied States and the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, who met here this week with producers, talent guild representatives and Mo-

(Continued on page 5)

Johnston Trip May Bar Tax Testimony

Washington, May 21.—With Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, slated to be on the West Coast next Wednesday and Thursday—the days set aside by the House Ways and Means Committee for testimony on admission taxes—plans to

(Continued on page 5)

In This Issue

"Copacabana" is reviewed on page 4; "Moss Rose" and "Dick Tracy's Dilemma" on page 7. Key city reports are on page 6.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 103 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, MAY 27, 1947 TEN CENTS

WB and RCA in Film-Theatre Video Tests

Special Equipment to Be Installed on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, May 26.—Working directly at the scene of filming at its Burbank studio, Warner Brothers is about to undertake experimentations with television, in conjunction with the Radio Corp. of America, which might have a relation to the future of television and the motion picture industry.

From the standpoint of possibly televising motion pictures from a studio stage to audiences in theatres or homes, the experiments will provide experience gained by placing television cameras alongside the regular motion picture cameras, with the lenses of both following the action of the story as it is filmed.

As part of the experiments being

(*Continued on page 8*)

UA Owners Consider Sale to Si Fabian

United Artists co-owners Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin have under "active consideration" the offer to purchase the company put to them through their representatives here by Si Fabian, Eastern circuit operator. Both Miss Pickford and Chaplin are on the Coast.

This is the conclusion drawn by a UA official who recalled that previous bids for control of the company were rejected by the owners within a few days after the offers were made, including those of David O. Selznick and Howard Hughes.

Figuring prominently in the proposed deal is the First National Bank of Boston which would provide financing.

Wanger Prod. Will Produce for FC

Joseph Bernhard, president of Film Classics, has been elected to the directorate of Walter Wanger Productions, and David Tannenbaum, vice-president of the latter company has, in turn, been named to the board of Film Classics. The affiliations are understood to be the result of a deal

(*Continued on page 8*)

Some Gains At N.Y. 1st Runs

New product came to the box-office assistance of some New York first-runs this week but the overall income remains short of being tops. The Jack Benny show at the Roxy, a double reissue program at the Strand—the latter without the regular stage show, and "Great Expectations" at the Music Hall are emerging with top revenue honors.

Benny, appearing on stage with Rochester, Marjorie Reynolds, Phil Harris and the Sportsmen's Quartet, is said to have scored a new Sunday record gross of $29,700 at the Roxy, which has "Brasher Doubloon" on the screen. Apparently, the week's total gross will be around $152,000, tremendous business but a good deal short of the record mark. Admission prices are up from $1.25 to $1.50 top on weekdays, and from $1.50 to $1.80

(*Continued on page 8*)

$962,000 Trust Suit in N. Orleans

NEW ORLEANS, May 26.—A suit for damages totaling $962,000 has been filed in Federal Court by Lakeview Theatres, Inc., against E. V. Richards, Jr., theatre executive, three distribu-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Walsh, O'Brien Meet On Exchange Plan

Consultations between Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, and Tom O'Brien, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees, London, continued here yesterday at offices of the IATSE.

O'Brien, who arrived here last Friday, seeks an agreement with Walsh on the interchange of British and American studio technicians. It is expected that O'Brien and Walsh will issue a joint statement at a press interview at the end of the week.

Ackery and Wise Get QP Awards

Ivan Ackery, of Famous Players-Canadian Corp., Vancouver, and Nathan Wise, RKO Theatres, Cincinnati, were presented with the plaques they won in the Quigley Awards for Showmanship for 1946 at a reception in the office of Martin Quigley yesterday afternoon.

Ackery, chosen the number one showman by the panel of judges for the Quigley Awards at the annual judging, held last March, received the

(*Continued on page 8*)

'IA' Demands Bldg. Code Apply to Present Booths

Industry Pledges Aid To Reserve Corps

Washington, May 26.—The War Department today received a pledge of industry cooperation in its drive to set up 2,500 affiliated units of the Organized Reserve Corps.

Stanley McIntosh represented the Motion Picture Association at a meeting in the Pentagon of leaders of industry, education, and other groups. The Army hopes to recruit 300,000 men and women in industry with special skills, ready to report for duty in a national emergency.

At forthcoming public hearings on the proposed revisions of the New York State standard building code, Richard S. Hayes of IATSE, Local No. 650, and other "IA" representatives, will seek to have stipulated exit and other regulations made applicable to existing projection booths instead of merely to those built in the future, as required in the revised code.

Existing projection booths, built under the present General Business Law, which has been in effect since 1911, will not be affected by the new code, if it is adopted in its present form, but all booths erected in the future will have to conform with certain construction, film handling, ventilation and sanitary standards. These include minimum dimensions of 10 by eight by eight feet, proper facilities if there are two or more projection machines, and two exits, one at each end.

Colosseum in NLRB Hearing For Salesmen

Seeks Recognition as Their Bargaining Agent

CHICAGO, May 26.—The Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America which, on occasion, has denied that it is a union or labor organization of film salesmen, has initiated hearings before the National Labor Relations Board to be designated bargaining agent for its members.

The first hearing before the NLRB was held in New York recently and was attended by home office representatives of Paramount, Loew's, Republic, United Artists, Universal, 20th Century-Fox, Warners, Columbia, Monogram, National Screen Service, RKO Radio and PRC.

David Beznor, attorney for the Colosseum, represented that organization, according to A. M. Van Dyke of the 20th Century-Fox office here,

(*Continued on page 8*)

Jurisdictional Ban Advances on Coast

SACRAMENTO, Cal., May 26. — The Senate has passed and sent to the Assembly the Rich bill outlawing jurisdictional strikes in California. The measure declares a jurisdictional strike to be "against the public policy of the state," and "is hereby declared unlawful." Any person injured or threatened with injury by violation of any of the provisions of the act is declared to be "entitled to injunctive relief" and to recover damages for such a strike. The bill was passed by a vote of 32 to 0 after Senator Oliver J. Carter un-

(*Continued on page 8*)

M. A. Lightman, Sr. Named MPF Trustee

MEMPHIS, May 26.—M. A. Lightman, Sr., head of Malco Theatres, Inc., was today elected national trustee of the Mid-South branch of the Motion Picture Foundation, follow-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Reviewed Today

"The Unfaithful" on page 8.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM J. HEINEMAN, general sales manager of the Rank division of Universal-International, left here yesterday for Chicago and will stop at Dallas en route to Los Angeles where he will confer next week with J. ARTHUR RANK and NATE BLUMBERG.

•

BERT SANFORD, Altec theatrical sales manager, is visiting supply dealers in the Midwest, with Chicago, Milwaukee, Des Moines, Omaha, Kansas City and St. Louis on his itinerary.

•

STANTON GRIFFIS, film executive and newly-appointed Ambassador to Poland, will speak at a meeting of the Connecticut chapter of American Relief for Poland tomorrow evening in Hartford.

•

WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal-International sales manager, and FRED G. MEYERS, Eastern division manager, have returned to New York from Gloversville, N. Y.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division sales manager for Warners, is in Pittsburgh today and is due back here tomorrow.

•

URIC MCCLEARY, member of the Association of Motion Picture Art Directors, is due here today from Hollywood.

•

DONALD NELSON, Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers president, is in town from the Coast.

•

CHARLES H. ROSE, of Four Roses Film Exchange, San Francisco, is staying at the Hotel Astor here.

Film Unit Cutbacks Seen in House Move

WASHINGTON, May 26.—A House appropriations committee has cut into the 1947-1948 appropriations of the Agriculture Department, and a spokesman for the Department's motion picture division declares that this would mean cutbacks in that division's program. The House group cut the budget of the Office of Information, of which the film division is part, by $125,000 to $575,000.

Testimony before the appropriations committee shows that 360 copies of Department films were purchased from commercial film distributors by foreign countries during 1946. This included UNRRA purchases. The Department prepared 17 films between July 1, 1946 and March 21, 1947, it was reported.

Andor on 'Brotherhood'

Paul Andor will narrate the German version of "Brotherhood of Man", animated color film produced by United Productions of America and now being translated for the Civil Affairs Division of the War Department.

Publicize Michigan In Series of Films

Detroit, May 26.—Theatres of Michigan have embarked on a program of publicizing the state through 17 subjects calling attention to its interesting and little known facts. The move is undertaken at the request of Gov. Sigler.

Cooperating theatres include United Detroit Theatres, Allied Theatres, Cooperative, Mutual, Associated, Wisper and Wetsman, General, Butterfield, Telenews, Michigan Independent Theatres Association, Fox, Adams and Downtown theatres and RKO.

Service Today for Samuel Strausberg

Services will be held at 10:30 A.M. today at Brooklyn Jewish Center for Samuel Strausberg, 65, president of Interboro Theatres, who died Friday night in Doctors Hospital after an illness of four months. Rabbi Israel Leventhal will officiate, and burial will be in Beth David Cemetery, Elmont, L. I. All Interboro theatres will be closed until two P.M. today.

Strausberg, born in Poland, came to this country 40 years ago, and after working as a tailor, he opened a nickelodeon in 1913, in Brooklyn. He leased 30 theatres to the Fox interests in 1927 in a $1,500,000 transaction. After the 1929 crash, Strausberg reentered exhibition and built up the Interboro circuit of more than 50 houses.

He was president of Beth-El Hospital and chairman of its $2,500,000 building fund campaign. During 1946 he was selected Brooklyn's outstanding citizen by the *Brooklyn Eagle*.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Rebecca Strausberg; two sons, Solomon M. and Morris O., and two daughters, Mrs. Stanley Kolbert and Mrs. Elias Bloomgarden.

Services Today for Frank A. Hornig, Sr.

BALTIMORE, May 26.—Funeral services for Frank A. Hornig, Sr., will be held tomorrow with entombment in Lorraine Mausoleum. Hornig died Friday following an operation. Pneumonia developed.

He was president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Maryland and owner of the Horn Theatre. His widow and a son, Frank A., Jr., survive.

Lang May Go to 20th

HOLLYWOOD, May 26. — Producer-director Fritz Lang will submit his independent deal, under which he is free to make the forthcoming "Corruption" for release outlets other than Universal-International, to 20th Century-Fox in a move to obtain the services of Tyrone Power and Betty Grable for the top spots.

Petersen Will See Gen. Clay on Film

WASHINGTON, May 26.—Assistant Secretary of War Howard D. Petersen will personally discuss AMG's Army program for the German film industry with Gen. Lucius D. Clay, U. S. Army chief in Germany, during a trip Petersen will make to Berlin this week.

Petersen will leave for Berlin tomorrow, and will be gone one week to 10 days. On his return, he will meet with MPEA vice-president Francis Harmon and give the film industry a complete report. The Army will also probably make a public release on the program at that time, he added.

Petersen revealed that it was because of his projected trip that he had decided last Friday to kill a news release promised that day, giving details of the German film production and export program.

Brig. Gen. Robert A. McClure, director of AMG's information control section, is due back in Washington this week on what the Army describes as a routine redeployment move, but he is not expected to make any detailed public report on the film program in Petersen's absence.

McClure will be chief of the New York field office of the Army's civil affairs division, under the reorientation branch in Washington. The films and theatre sections, formerly headed by Pare Lorentz, will be under McClure.

SRO and ABPC Talk Deal for 'Duel'

LONDON, May 26.—William Erbb, representative here of the Selznick Releasing Organization, still is awaiting word from Neil Agnew, SRO executive in New York, concerning distribution of "Duel in the Sun" in England. Associated British Pictures and Erbb have been negotiating a deal which would include physical handling by ABPC and a circuitwide booking by its related Associated British Cinemas.

The picture received mixed reactions following its London premiere last Friday evening at the Paramount Carlton theatre before an audience of notables.

New Autry-Republic Deal to Continue

HOLLYWOOD, May 26.—Agreement between Gene Autry and Republic for the star to make two more for the studio regardless of the outcome of their contract case, as appealed to the California Supreme Court, remains intact despite the latter's new ruling in favor of the star, the studio affirmed today. Autry has completed one, and will make the other in the winter.

Sandy Joins Kay

ATLANTA, May 26. — Fred Sandy, former branch manager for PRC in Philadelphia, and who has been identified for years in film circles in Washington, has assumed the management of the Washington Kay film exchange.

WAA Selling Film Worth $1,242,000

Surplus 35mm. and 16mm. negative film stock, costing originally $1,242,000, has been put up for sealed-bid sale by the War Assets Administration office, here. Expiration date for filing bids is June 5. The film is Signal Corps surplus.

Until June 6, the WAA is also offering at fixed prices more than 5,000 Ansco film holders and more than 9,000 16mm. film cans of 1,600 feet.

Stamp Collectors to [illegible]et

Next meeting of the Cinema Stamp Collectors will be held at the Astor Hotel, New York, tomorrow evening. Eugene Sharin of Producers Releasing has joined the club.

New Warner House

CLEVELAND, May 26. — Warner Brothers' new 1,565-seat theatre, only new house completed in Cleveland since the war, will open Thursday, with Harold Friedman as manager.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
John MILLS • Valerie HOBSON
in J. Arthur Rank's
"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
Skirley Franchot Guy
TEMPLE • TONE • MADISON
in
Honeymoon

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st N. Y. Showing!
ROSALIND RUSSELL
MELVYN DOUGLAS
'THE GUILT OF JANET AMES'
IN PERSON
LAMBERTI
BUSTER SHAVER
Extra!
BETTY REILLY
Plus others

RAY MILLAND • TERESA WRIGHT
in "The Imperfect Lady"
A Paramount Picture
in Person
BUDDY CLARK
THE MODERNAIRES
JAN MURRAY
THE ACROMANIACS
BOYD RAEBURN
AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

The Academy Award Picture!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Monogram Planning Own Canadian Sales

Allied Artists Distributing Corp. of Canada, now being formed as a subsidiary of Monogram and Allied Artists, will take over future distribution of Monogram and Allied Artists product in Canada if pending negotiations for distribution do not produce a satisfactory agreement, Steve Broidy, president of Monogram and AA, indicated here yesterday.

Negotiations between Broidy and John W. Davis, managing director for J. Arthur Rank, for distribution in Canada by the Rank organization, are due to begin in New York tomorrow. George W. Burrows, executive vice-president and treasurer of Monogram-AA, who will arrive here today from the Coast, will participate.

Although he declined to name companies other than the Rank organization and the present Monogram Canadian franchise holder, Oscar Hanson, Broidy intimated that several companies are interested in taking over future Canadian distribution, adding that discussions will be held with all.

Rank as a distributor of Eagle-Lion and PRC product in various parts of the world—except Canada—is a competitor of Monogram on its own level, but can provide Canadian distribution facilities for Monogram-AA product, it was said. In addition to present physical facilities, Hanson is said to have available sites for at least three new exchange buildings. If negotiations with outsiders fail, the new Allied Artists of Canada would have to acquire distribution facilities through purchase or construction.

House Group to Meet In Eisler Red Probe

WASHINGTON, May 26.—Rep. J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee, said his group will meet here Wednesday to discuss further plans for investigating Communism in the motion picture industry.

Thomas returned today from the West Coast, where he headed a subcommittee investigation. Hearings are already planned here for June 16 to probe the activities of Hans Eisler, film composer, and the meeting Wednesday will presumably map plans for extended "full-dress" hearings.

Levinson-Finney Win

LOS ANGELES, May 26.—Levinson-Finney Enterprises continue to distribute their imported version of "Bel Ami," as a result of a decision handed down by Judge Paul J. McCormick of U. S. District Court, discharging an order to show cause and a temporary injunction in an action brought against it by Casino Film Exchange of New York, Levinson-Finney state. Joseph Scheinman, plaintiff in the action, contended he had exclusive rights to the film, but the defendant produced two copyright registrations establishing its right. Attorney for the defense was Harold A. Fendler.

Raybond Buys Bronx Site

A large site has been purchased at Westchester Square in the Bronx by David Weinstock, president of Raybond Theatre Circuit, and plans are being set for the development of a recreation center to include a 1,100-seat theatre, roller skating rink, bowling alleys, and bus terminal.

Century Concludes School Experiment

Century Theatres' visual education experiment, conducted in direct collaboration with the Board of Education, has been completed. The monthly series began in February with Century absorbing all costs connected with the program. Representatives of the Board of Education now are preparing an evaluating report which will decide whether the experiment has proved valuable enough to be continued and enlarged.

Century vice-president, Fred J. Schwartz expressed the hope that the Board's report would indicate a desire to "broaden the base of the program by increasing the number of schools and the number of children participating."

Claims Color Process From 'Ordinary' Film

CHICAGO, May 26.—Ordinary black and white panchromatic film can, through a process which reportedly produces its own color separation negatives at the instant of exposure, produce color prints, it was disclosed here today in a paper written by Richard Thomas, of Hollywood, at the opening sessions of the Inland Daily Press Association. Asserting that the system is as quick and economical as black and white, with non-fading as one of its characteristics, the paper said that normal lighting conditions may be used.

In his report Thomas said the process was adaptable "equally to motion pictures, still photography, graphic arts and color television."

Congress to Probe Petrillo in Films

WASHINGTON, May 26.—Rep. Richard M. Nixon, member of a House labor subcommittee investigating alleged "representative practices" by James C. Petrillo, as president of the American Federation of Musicians, left here today by plane for California, where he will obtain data on Petrillo's relations with the film industry.

The subcommittee has already subpoenaed the union leader, and full hearings are expected to get under way as soon as the U. S. Supreme Court acts on the constitutionality of the Lea Act. Rep. Kearns, subcommittee chairman, has already traveled to Montreal and Chicago to collect information on Petrillo's activities.

Levy Is Honored by Conn. Solons' Group

HARTFORD, May 26.—Herman M. Levy of New Haven, executive secretary of the MPTO of Connecticut and general counsel of the MPTOA, has been elected an honorary member of the Preferri Society, according to an announcement here by Rep. William C. Raynsford, member of the Connecticut House of Representatives. The Preferri Society, which is headed by Rep. Raynsford, is composed principally of members of the House of Representatives elected to the society.

Screen Extras Reelect

HOLLYWOOD, May 26.—The Screen Extras Guild today reelected all officers and board members to serve for another year.

Clearance Complaint Seeks 50-day Limit

A clearance complaint asking a 50-day clearance maximum after the first run Carroll Theatre, Waterbury, Conn., was filed yesterday with the American Arbitration Association against the five major distributors by the Alhambra Theatre, Waterbury.

The complaint alleges that due to peculiarities of the Carroll's operations, pictures become available to the Alhambra extremely late, resulting in hardship in booking.

Meanwhile, the arbitration appeal board has handed down a decision modifying the award of the Boston tribunal in a demand by the operator of the Ritz Theatre, Gorham, Mass., against the five majors for clearance relief. The appeal decision grants a maximum clearance to the Strand, in Berlin, N. H., of 21 days over the Ritz, and a clearance of 14 days to the Albert, Berlin, over the Ritz on pictures which the Albert shall play first-run. In no event, according to the decision, which reduces the original clearance allowed by the Boston tribunal, is the availability to the Ritz to be later than 70 days after territorial release date.

Grant WB Appeal On Star's Contract

LOS ANGELES, May 26.—Warner Brothers' petition for hearing of an appeal from Superior Court's decision in its case against Joan Leslie was granted by the State Supreme Court over the weekend.

$100,000 a Year From Roxy Counter

About $100,000 yearly additional revenue will accrue to the Roxy Theatre, here, from its new $25,000 lobby soda counter, A. J. Balaban, the theatre's general manager, estimated yesterday at a trade press opening of the soft drink dispensary. Balaban forecast all 600 National Theatres will ultimately be equipped with counters.

Already, according to National Theatres vice-president Dan Michalove, who was also present at the press opening, some 15 National Theatres are equipped with counters.

Para. Sales Meetings Enter Fourth Week

The fourth week of Paramount branch meetings, preliminary to the start of the company's 1947 "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership" sales drive, on Aug 31, opened yesterday with Boston and Dallas meetings.

The Boston meeting, conducted by Hugh Owen, Eastern and Southern division sales manager, will close tomorrow. The Dallas meeting, which closes today, is being conducted by J. J. Donohue, Central sales manager.

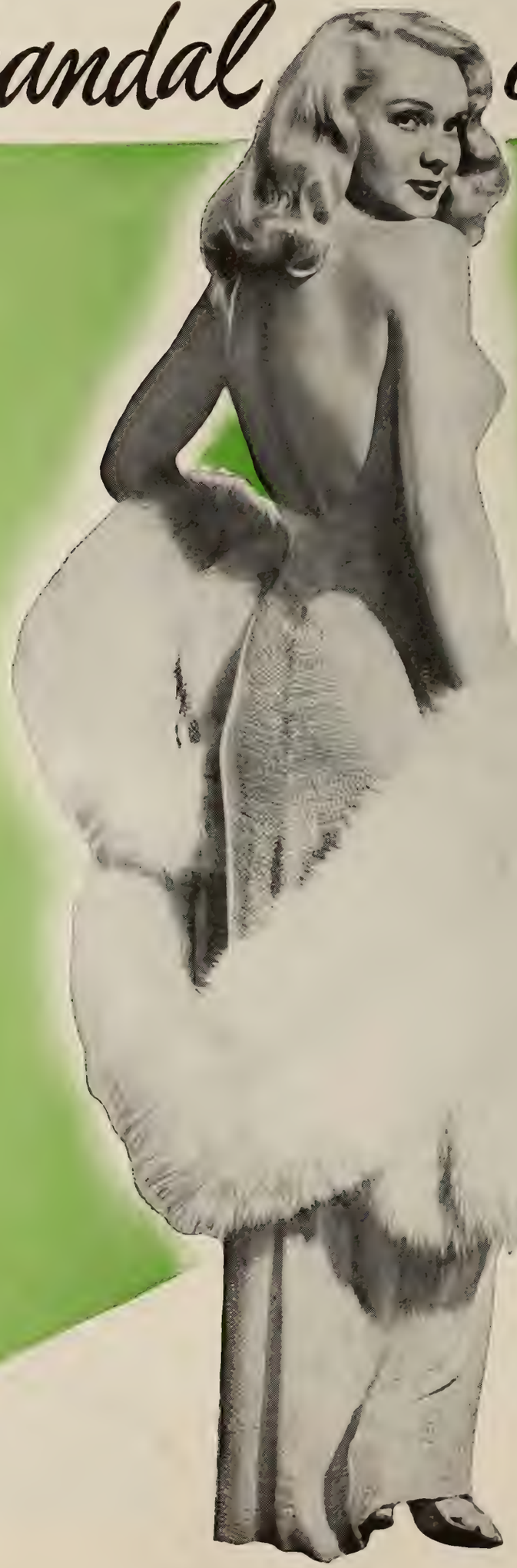
Owen will start a three-day meeting in New York on Thursday. Donohue will also hold meetings in Oklahoma City and Memphis this week.

Cecil DeMille Cited

HOLLYWOOD, May 26.—Cecil B. DeMille, Paramount producer-director, has been notified that he has been selected by the International Film Festival committee of Venice, Italy, as "one of the 10 film directors of international reputation," and will be so honored at the festival, to be held in Venice, Aug. 14-Sept. 10.

M-G-M TRADE SHOW
CORRECTION!
New York-New Jersey Territory Only
"FIESTA"
NEW DATE
JUNE 11
Wednesday 10:30 A. M. and 2:30 P. M.
M-G-M SCREEN ROOM
630 Ninth Avenue · New York City
Instead of Monday, June 23,
as previously advertised

The Scandal of the



SHE TRIED TO HIDE THIS BODY!



What a dope!

Terrified Movie Star!



COLUMBIA PICTURES

presents

George BRENT

Joan BLONDELL

The Corpse Came C.O.D.

with ADELE JERGENS · JIM BANNON · LESLIE BROOKS

Screenplay by George Bricker, Dwight Babcock

Based upon the novel by JIMMY STARR

Directed by HENRY LEVIN · Produced by SAMUEL BISCHOFF

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Thank you, Thank you,

"A good bet." . . . . . FILM BULLETIN

"Hit Parade of '47 will hit." . . . . . HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"Exceptionally good songs . . . sprightly comedy." . . SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

"Marquee names . . . add a box-office fillip." . . . . . N. Y. VARIETY

"Flows along easily . . . aimed at escape and relaxation." . MOTION PICTURE DAILY

"Should be one of big grossers." . . . . . DAILY VARIETY

"Should find favor among all types of audiences." . . . . . THE EXHIBITOR

"Far and away the best to date . . . a bevy of catchy new songs." . . . BOXOFFICE

"A half-dozen points of good exploitation caliber." . . . . . FILM DAILY

"Sparkling . . . bright and fresh and new." . . . . . HOLLYWOOD REVIEW

"Tops in entertainment. All 'round box office." . . . . . INDEPENDENT

"Pleasant and lilting." . . . . . MOTION PICTURE HERALD

Hit Parade of

is a great big wonderful


Thank you!
1947
show!
HIT PARADE
of 1947
Starring
Eddie ALBERT · Constance MOORE · Joan EDWARDS
with Gil LAMB · Bill GOODWIN · William FRAWLEY
Woody HERMAN and his ORCHESTRA
and REPUBLIC GREAT STARS ROY ROGERS and TRIGGER ROB ROLAN and THE SONS of the PIONEERS
Screen Play by Stacy Locs • Original Story by Parke Levy • Songs by JIMMY McHUGH and HAROLD ADAMSON • Associate Producer and Director FRANK McDONALD
A REPUBLIC PICTURE

FCC Meets Here on Network Television

The Federal Communications Commission will study the present status and early potentialities of television networks at a meeting here on June 9 with telecasters and manufacturers of coaxial cable and ultra high-frequency relay equipment. Purpose of the meeting is to provide the commission with up-to-date data on television network developments with the aim of formulating a "schedule which will set forth the expected installation dates of common carrier facilities for the relaying of television programs between cities." American Telephone and Telegraph, General Electric, Philco and Radio Corp. of America will be among the participants in the FCC meeting.

Networks Now NAB 'Associates'; ABC In

WASHINGTON, May 26.—American Broadcasting has joined the National Association of Broadcasters as an associate member. An NAB board meeting also approved a by-law revision changing network memberships from "active" to "associate" and admitted more than 100 new stations to membership. Other action taken included support of the Broadcast Measurement Bureau, appropriation of funds for a second study of listener attitudes towards radio, and approval of the appointment of four station representatives to serve on an industry-American Federation of Radio Artists liaison committee.

WB-RCA Video Tests

(*Continued from page* 1)

conducted by Warners and RCA, as revealed by David Sarnoff at the recent color television demonstrations in Philadelphia, the Warner studio shortly will receive from the RCA plant in Camden a shipment of special television camera equipment.

The cameras will also enable producers to view scenes of a motion picture as fast as they are shot, without having to wait for rushes.

Col. Nathan Levinson, chief of sound activities at the Warner studio, spent several weeks in the East recently working with RCA technicians and engineers on the new equipment.

Colosseum

(*Continued from page* 1)

who is president of the Colosseum. Van Dyke said that the organization has established lodges in Albany, Des Moines, Denver, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, and that one is in process of organization in Charlotte.

At the New York hearing before the NLRB, the parties agreed to submit factual data pertinent to the Colosseum's claims to be designated a bargaining agent for salesmen and exchange sales managers. A further hearing is expected early in June.

Jurisdictional Ban

(*Continued from page* 1)

successfully sought to limit the bill strictly to strikes.

A second measure by Rich also was passed by the Senate, permitting any person or firm injured or threatened with injury because of a violation of the collective bargaining agreement to seek injunction relief in the courts and to recover damages.

Review

"The Unfaithful"

(Warner Brothers)

IN a story that might have been culled from any of the nation's newspapers, "The Unfaithful" examines the disintegrating influences exerted on a modern marriage by wartime separations. It is the type of drama that packs a realistic punch in its entertainment. It is definitely for adults. With compact direction and a cast of performers headed by Ann Sheridan, Lew Ayres and Zachary Scott, the picture is one of assured appeal.

Almost immediately upon opening, the film takes a dramatic turn. Miss Sheridan, returning home from a fashionable party, is followed to her door by a shadowy figure. A few moments later cries ring out and a scuffle ensues. When the story is picked up next morning, Miss Sheridan's husband, Scott, returns from a business trip to learn that his wife, suffering from shock, had killed a would-be thief.

The original screenplay, by David Goodis and James Gunn, handles with caution a thorny subject. Investigation by police discloses that there is more to the circumstances than appears in Miss Sheridan's testimony. It develops that the victim was a sculptor with whom Miss Sheridan, in the pained days of her husband's service overseas, had been emotionally involved. Learning of this, Scott, heretofore devoted, becomes infuriated, decides on a divorce and punctuates the decision with a sharp slap in the face.

In the court scenes that follow, Ayres, family friend and lawyer, proves that Miss Sheridan killed in self-defense and wins an acquittal. It then remains for Ayres to denounce divorce as a cheap way out and reconcile the still-loving but sorely tested couple. The acting assignments are difficult ones but all are handled capably. Ayres is memorable as the vice-detesting lawyer. Eve Arden gives humorous balance to the proceedings as a sophisticated lady of the world. Vincent Sherman directed and Jerry Wald produced.

Running time, 109 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, July 5.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Ackery and Wise

(*Continued from page* 1)

Silver Plaque. Wise, advertising-publicity head for five RKO theatres in Cincinnati, was presented with the Bronze Plaque.

The two Grand Award winners will be the guests of Quigley Publications this week. Today they will visit Gus Eyssell, managing director of Radio City Music Hall and will later be entertained by 20th Century-Fox for dinner and the theatre, including a visit backstage to see Jack Benny and his company at the Roxy. Ackery has played Benny on tour and it was at his theatre in Vancouver that Benny first met Mary Livingstone, his wife. Also today, the visitors will be luncheon guests of Don Carle Gillette, of Warner Brothers, at Toots Shor's.

Guests invited to the reception and presentation of the awards included: John J. O'Connor, William Toumey, Paul Lazarus, William W. Howard, Paul Mooney, Sr., Lynn Farnol, Claude Lee, Henderson M. Richey, Oscar Doob, William Ferguson, Sol Schwartz, Malcolm Kingsberg, G. S. Eyssell, Max Youngstein, Louis Elliman, Harry MacWilliams, Charles Schlaifer, Harry Mandel, Steve Edwards, Don Carle Gillette, Zeb Epstein and Fred Lynch.

Wanger-FC Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

whereby Wanger will produce for Classics, in an expansion move.

Meanwhile, negotiations are understood to be near consummation which would give FC the last outstanding product franchises, operating in the South, and thereby making the company a national distributor with its own branches in all key cities.

The Boston Franchise has been acquired by Film Classics, according to an announcement here by Sam Wheeler, sales manager.

Wheeler also announced the appointment of Morris Green, formerly with Paramount, as branch manager and supervisor in New Haven.

$962,000 Trust Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

tors and United Theatres, Inc., charging violation of anti-trust laws. In addition to Richards and United, the other defendants are RKO Radio, Paramount and Warner Brothers.

The action states that Richards is the principal stockholder of United Theatres firm and stockholder and member of the board of directors of Paramount. It also asks for a restraining order halting the defendants from continuing distribution practices which allegedly are in violation of the Sherman and Clayton anti-trust acts, and the Robinson-Patman act. Robert E. Smith is president of the plaintiff corporation.

The plaintiff alleges monopolistic practices which favor a theatre known as the Beacon, owned by United and located 400 feet from the plaintiff's theatre. The suit further states that the plaintiff, in formulating plans for erection of the Lakeview, received assurances from the defendant producers that pictures would be available on reasonable terms, and "as soon as plaintiff's intention to erect was generally known, United purchased a lot approximately 400 feet away and erected the Beacon."

New WE Recorder

First Eastern U. S. delivery of a Western Electric 335-D recording system by the company's Electrical Research Products division has been made to Eastern Sound Studios, Inc., in New York City. The Studios, operated by Edward J. and Harry Lee Danziger, dub foreign language voices to match lip movements in American films.

Emerling Names Barker

Ted Barker has been named publicity-advertising manager for Loew's five theatres in Cleveland. Barker, who has been publicist for Loew's State and Orpheum in St. Louis, will succeed Ed Fisher, who has resigned, Ernest Emerling, Loew advertising director, reports.

N.Y. 1st Runs

(*Continued from page* 1)

maximum on weekends. The show goes one more week.

"The Sea Hawk" and "The Sea Wolf" without benefit of "in person" support figure will give the Strand a sound $47,000 in an initial week.

At the Music Hall, "Great Expectations," with a stage presentation, grossed $83,500 Wednesday through Sunday, indicating a splendid first week's income of $133,500.

"Duel in the Sun," at the Capitol, is falling off substantially with [illegible]9,000 apparent for a third week. The usual vaudeville is excluded from the Capitol program also. A first week for "Imperfect Lady," at the Paramount, offered with Buddy Clark and Jan Murray on stage, appears good for $65,000.

Playing a fourth week at two houses, "Carnegie Hall" is doing well enough with a $31,000 gross at the Winter Garden and $7,000 at the Park. The Victoria is likely to wind up its first week of "The Patient Vanishes" with a mild $10,500.

"Framed" is a profitable newcomer at the Globe which looks good for $25,000 for the week, while "The Guilty," at the Gotham, probably will conclude a second and final week with a meager $6,200; the Gotham's next is a Universal re-issue combination of "I Stole a Million" and "Magnificent Obsession," opening on Friday.

The customers are likely to put up $30,000 at the Astor this week, the 27th for "Best Years of Our Lives." The second week of "The Other Love," at the Rivoli, is fairly strong at $27,000, estimated. The last five days of the eighth week of "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," at the Hollywood, probably will bring in $11,500, which is fair. "Possessed" follows, opening on Thursday. "Odd Man Out" should provide the Criterion with a healthy $20,000 in its current week, the fifth.

Mid-South MPF

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing organization of the unit at a special meeting of Variety Club Tent 20. Ed Sapinsley, Malco official, was named chairman of the new unit and Tom Young, 20th Century-Fox branch manager, was elected secretary-treasurer.

Comprising the 11-member committee to administer the Foundation's affairs in Arkansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Mississippi and Tennessee are, in addition to the officers: Bill Kroeger, W. A. Rush, David Flexer, M. J. Pruniski, O. G. Wren, Morris Collins, W. A. Griffin and Ed Williamson.

A. H. Blank, of Tri-States, Elected Trustee of Des Moines Foundation

DES MOINES, May 26.—A. H. Blank, president of Tri-States Theatre Corp., was named trustee and Nathan Sandler, owner of several independent theatres in Iowa, was elected chairman of the Des Moines panel of the Motion Picture Foundation at its organizational meeting here today.

One-year members elected to the panel are: G. Ralph Branton, D. C. Kennedy, J. H. Foley, Eddie Faulks, William A. Johnson, Mrs. A. M. Black, L. A. Kuhl and Sandler. Serving two-year terms will be: Blank, Lou Levy, Ruby G. Faulds, Charles Iles, Lawrence Dunn, Ted Medenhall, Nate Rosenthal, Wesley Mansfield and Barney Brotman.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 104 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 1947 TEN CENTS

86,640 World Theatres Are Listed by U. S.

Department of Commerce Cites a 25% Increase

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, May 27. — The number of theatres throughout the world showed a healthy 25 per cent increase during the last seven years, despite the war, according to the U. S. Department of Commerce.

On Jan. 1, 1947, there was a total of 86,640 motion picture theatres, compared with 67,997 on Jan. 1, 1940. Seating capacity exists today for more than 38,000,000 persons, it was said.

In releasing the study, motion picture consultant Nathan D. Golden points out that American motion pictures now face the most intensive competition ever confronted abroad, but the increase in the number of theatres in foreign lands is one possible com-

(*Continued on page 8*)

KRS Opposes Video Trust

LONDON, May 27.—The Kinematograph Renters Society is firmly opposed to any television monopoly in Britain, taking the view that the film industry should be free agents in television, the KRS annual report discloses. A similar attitude was taken recently by J. Arthur Rank. The KRS, in stating its position, indicated parenthetically that it has "nothing against the British Broadcasting Company."

The report, which also summarized the past years' industry activities,

(*Continued on page 7*)

Rank Gets Setback In Franchise Battle

TORONTO, May 27.—J. Arthur Rank, the J. Arthur Rank Organization, Eagle-Lion Films, Inc., and the General Cinema Finance Corp., today lost the first round in the legal battle in which Empire Universal Films, Ltd., and other plaintiffs have sued over a Canadian distribution franchise for certain Hollywood pictures.

G. D. Conant, presiding as master-

(*Continued on page 7*)

O'Brien Finds Labor Peace Distant Here

Permanent peace for Hollywood labor will be impossible without a complete withdrawal from the scene of some unions which have endeavored to circumscribe the legitimate functions and field of the IATSE, Tom O'Brien, Member of Parliament and general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes, London, declared here yesterday.

O'Brien, visiting in New York, will endeavor while here to set up a reciprocal agreement with Richard Walsh, IATSE president, for the admission of visiting British and American technicians to the studios of the two countries.

O'Brien said he believes only a

(*Continued on page 7*)

ATA Member Drive Halted

In the light of changing conditions within the industry because of the Government's anti-trust action against the distributors, the American Theatres Association's directorate has voted to suspend the organization's membership drive, Ted R. Gamble, board chairman disclosed here yesterday. He added that it would be ill-advised, for example, to undertake to induce

(*Continued on page 7*)

Coast Locals' Vote Continues Strike

Hollywood, May 27. — The Hollywood studio strike appeared prolonged indefinitely today following full membership meetings of Painters Local No. 644 and Screen Set Designers Local No. 1421 at which a vote was taken on whether to continue the strike or to return to work on the best available terms.

The painters voted to continue, 572-90, while the designers also voted to continue, 223-34.

Mirisch Joins AA As Vice-President

Harold J. Mirisch, formerly head film buyer for RKO Theatres, has joined Allied Artists' Productions as vice-president, and will act in the capacity of producer - contact with the AA sales department. Allied is the top-budget producing affiliate of Monogram, distributor of AA. product.



Harold J. Mirisch

Mirisch is at present in New York with Allied - Monogram president Steve Broidy, but will leave in about a week for Hollywood, where he will make his headquarters.

"Dear Ruth"

[*Paramount*] — A Very Funny Show

THE predominance of women who have a habit of showing up whenever Paramount runs an exhibitor trade show at the Normandie Theatre in New York was on hand yesterday morning for "Dear Ruth." They found the attraction so funny so often that dialogue lines were lost consistently. Therefore, the question is how much more hilarious could this amusing comedy with its semi-tragic overtones have been if the lines smothered in both ripples and waves of laughter had been audible. Probably there never will be any way of telling as long as audiences are on deck.

So far as any reviewer may be qualified to draw an accurate bead on what the public will or will not go for, the odds appear heavily weighted in favor of this film. Norman Krasna wrote the highly successful stage play on which Arthur Sheekman blueprinted his script. The story is exceedingly slight and depends upon situations. The situations involve Edward Arnold, a traffic court judge; Mary Philips, his wife; Joan Caulfield, their attractive daughter who works in a bank in suburban New York; Mona Freeman, their 16-year old daughter who is the menace;

(*Continued on page 7*)

Tax Cut Vital For Economy, Gamble Insists

Will So Argue Tomorrow Before House Committee

The leveling off of theatre income and the "discriminatory" character of the 20 per cent Federal admission tax make the need vital for reduction of the tax as a means of cooperating with the Truman administration's economic policy of continued high wages and lowered living costs. This is the argument planned to be presented at a House Ways and Means Committee hearing in Washington tomorrow by Ted R. Gamble, board chairman of the American Theatres Association.

Continuance of the tax will necessitate a drop in theatre admission scales to stave off further business declines, Gamble said here yesterday, suggesting that unfavorable economic re-

(*Continued on page 7*)

33-Million US Tax for April

WASHINGTON, May 27.—Federal admission tax collections in April, based on March box-office receipts, totaled $33,412,813, the Treasury announces.

Though this was a considerable increase over the previous month's $28,796,825, Treasury officials pointed

(*Continued on page 7*)

Four-Day Columbia Meet in Chicago

Columbia has scheduled a four-day sales meeting for June 3-6 at Chicago's Drake Hotel. Present will be all branch and district managers, as well as home office executives and top sales personnel. A. Montague, general sales manager, will preside.

During the sessions delegates will

(*Continued on page 7*)

In This Issue

"The Long Night" and "The Patient Vanishes" are reviewed on page 4. Key city grosses are on page 6.

Gulf States Allied Will Meet June 3

NEW ORLEANS, May 27.—Members of the recently-formed Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States are expected to approve an application for affiliation with national Allied States at a meeting of the new organization to be held here June 3 at the Jung Hotel.

The application will have to be approved by Allied States' directors before the new unit is admitted to membership. Their approval will give Allied its first affiliate in the Deep South.

A permanent local organization is expected to be established here at next week's meeting to handle legislative and trade problems for independent exhibitors in Louisiana and Mississippi.

Officers of the new organization are: W. A. Prewitt, New Orleans, president; Don George, Shreveport, vice-president; Abe Berenson, New Orleans, secretary-treasurer.

Film Bldg. Tenants Asked to Vacate

All film company and other tenants of the building at 723 Seventh Ave., here, have been requested to vacate by June 30 on notices given by new owners, Spotless Stores, Inc., which has purchased the property from Dakota Realty Corp.

Located in the building are: Ace Pictures, Ampropa Films, Artkino, Atlas Film, C. and G. Film Effects, Capital Pictures, Cosmopolitan, Crescent, Excelsior, Film Shows, Fistic Film, Jewish-American Films Co., Jubilee Films, M-G-M International, Mercury Laboratories, Mineature Film Supply, Post Pictures, Protex Film, Puritan, Screenart, Screen Guild, Soundfilm, Standard Film Processing, Toddy Pictures, Travelcade Film and Trinity Pictures.

Feld's E-L Office Now in St. Louis

KANSAS CITY, May 27.—William Feld, who succeeded Mark Raymon as district manager for Eagle-Lion in this area, has moved the district office to St. Louis, with Milton Overman, district exploitation representative, retaining an office here, in the PRC headquarters.

Randforce Is Cited

At a dinner given at the Hotel Commodore by the State Insurance Fund as a climax to its "Statewide Accident Reduction Contest," Randforce Amusement Corp. was awarded first prize for the best accident and safety record in the theatres division. In addition to the citation, a bronze trophy was presented.

Offices Closed Friday

All film company offices here, including those of the Motion Picture Association, will be closed all day Friday in observance of Memorial Day, a legal holiday.

Personal Mention

WALT DISNEY has arrived here from the Coast, and is undergoing medical treatment here.

•

WILLIAM M. LEVY, United Artists division manager for Europe and the Near East left here yesterday by plane for London en route to Paris and Brussels where he will attend the Belgian Film Festival next month. His assistant, HAROLD WILLIAM AUTEN, has arrived in Athens for distribution talks there.

•

RALPH FALKENBERG, Lexington, Neb., exhibitor, is visiting CARL NEDLEY, M-G-M exchange manager in Salt Lake City, while SAM GARDNER, M-G-M district manager, is expected in Salt Lake City this week.

•

AL KOLITZ, RKO district manager and successor to LEN GRUENBERG, is in Salt Lake City, from Denver, and is slated to accompany GIFF DAVISON, Salt Lake RKO manager, in the Idaho and Montana territory.

•

HAL HORNE, Story Productions executive producer, is due here from the Coast to join his wife en route to attend the graduation of her daughter, BARBARA SACHS, from Duke University June 2.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic distribution chief, returned here yesterday from the Coast and Mexico City.

•

WILLIAM JACOBS, Warner producer, will leave here for the Coast tomorrow.

ERIC JOHNSTON, MPA head, who has left here for the Coast, will be featured speaker at the Young Republican National Federation's convention in Milwaukee on June 7.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will speak at the convention of the Independent Theatre Owners of Arkansas in Little Rock next week.

•

H. M. BESSEY, Altec vice-president, accompanied by L. J. PATTON, newly-appointed district manager, are motoring to Atlanta.

•

GEORGE DEMBOW, National Screen Service sales vice-president, and MRS. DEMBOW have returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

EDWARD L. WALTON, Republic assistant general sales manager, has returned here from Seattle and Minneapolis.

•

RUDY BURGER, M-G-M Southern sales manager and JOHN S. ALLEN, his assistant, are visiting in Oklahoma City.

•

CAROL BRANDT, M-G-M Eastern story head, is due here today by plane from London.

•

P. F. THOMAS, Altec treasurer, has returned to New York from a trip through the South.

•

ANN STRAUSSOF of the M-G-M Coast publicity department is vacationing here.

Actors' Shrine to Be Built for Patron

Plans to build a shrine to St. Genesius, patron saint of actors, are being formulated by a new organization of Catholic radio, stage and screen performers called The Genesians. The first site under consideration is the former Charles M. Schwab estate at Loretto, Pa., now occupied by the Franciscan Fathers. The idea came from the Rev. Walter Plimmer, known as the actor-priest because of his experience in the theatre before entering the priesthood.

George Buck, executive secretary of the Catholic Actors Guild of America, is serving as temporary chairman of the new group.

1st Agriculture Film In More Than a Year

WASHINGTON, May 27. — The new Department of Agriculture soil conservation film, "It's Your Land," will be available for use in theatres by mid-June.

The five-minute 35mm. dramatic short will be distributed to local Agriculture Conservation Committees during the next three weeks and will be obtainable through them.

This is the first time in over a year that a Department film has been made available for local theatre use.

Nomikos Is Enjoined By Chicago Court

CHICAGO, May 27.—Federal Judge Walter LaBuy has issued a temporary restraining order enjoining the Troy Theatre Co. from cancelling a lease on the RKO Grand Theatre until a motion for a preliminary injunction can be argued in District Court here on June 4.

Winston Theatre Corp., subsidiary of RKO, originally expended $50,000 for improvements without the written consent of the Troy Theatre Co., of which Van A. Nomikos is head. Troy claims such improvements are structural alterations made without express consent, and therefore charges as per terms of the lease are unjustified. Miles Seeley is attorney for RKO interests and Seymour Simon represents Nomikos.

Hampton Unit Formed

HAMPTON, VA., May 27.—A charter has been issued to Hampton Theatres, Inc., a $50,000 corporation authorized to do theatrical business. Officers are: H. J. Fokas, president; Athene C. Fokas, vice-president, and William J. Fokas, secretary-treasurer. The officers and Basil George of Baltimore, are directors. Carmel and Carmel, Hampton, represented the corporation in making application for the charter.

Newsreel Parade

PRESIDENT Truman's signing of the Greek-Turkish bill tops newsreel events of the week. Among the miscellany of other items are Haile Selassie viewing his army, the U. S. fleet at San Francisco, and sports. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 78—Truman Doctrine becomes law; President signs bill to aid Greece and Turkey. Gen. Mark Clark, home, comments on Truman Doctrine. Haile Selassie reviews troops. Linda Darnell sightseeing in Paris. Pilot hero of the week. American warships visit Australia. U. S. task force steams into San Francisco. Navy demonstrates new fighter plane. Dog show.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 276—U. S. fleet at San Francisco. Hundreds flock for help to modern miracle healer. Haile Selassie builds modern army in Ethiopia. Europe's dispossessed find promised land in Brazil, President Truman signs bill for Turkey and Greece. Ambassador Caffrey attends wine festival in France. China's beauties in style show. Mutton marathon: lamb derby in California. Dog show in New Jersey.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 79—Navy unveils its super-jet fighter. Gen. Mark Clark returns from Europe. Capt. J. Eisenhower returns from Germany. Truman signs Greek-Turkish aid bill. Patients flock to faith healer. Dog show. Air Corps vets win Hudson River race.

RKO PATHE, No. 81—Truman Doctrine bill signed. Refugees find haven in Brazil. Mrs. Earhart talks about Amelia. Students hear Wallace. Hordes see faith healer. Fishermen battle sharks.

UNIVERSAL, No. 42—Truman signs Greek-Turkish bill. Displaced persons in Brazil. Tubeless tire tested. Haile Selassie heads liberation rites in Ethiopia Magicians thrill invalid children at Seattle. Chinese fashion show. Sports: boatrace, dogshow.

Selznick, Morris Agencies in Deal

William Morris Agency, Inc., and Myron Selznick London, Ltd., has entered into a reciprocal agreement for representation of each other's motion picture clients. Clients of the Selznick agency will also be represented in all other fields in the Western Hemisphere by the William Morris Agency. Cecil Tennant, managing director of the Selznick agency, will make periodic trips to the United States from London, and a schedule has been arranged for representatives of the Morris Agency to make periodic trips to England.

Fosters' Agency of London, which has represented the Morris Agency in Great Britain for over 40 years, will continue to represent in Great Britain clients of the agency in all fields except motion pictures, and will also make motion picture deals that are the outgrowth of other engagements which Fosters' arranges for Morris clients.

Variety Aids Victims

SAN FRANCISCO, May 27. — Prior to the opening of the local tent of the Variety Club, Irving Levin, on behalf of San Francisco Theatres, presented R. J. O'Donnell, Variety Club official, with a check for $1,032, which was collected in Levin's theatres for the Texas disaster victims.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME!





L. 6

Does the upward curve of a bathing suit mean the downward curve of your attendance? Does the crack of a baseball bat mean a crack in your receipts? If vacation-time and outdoor competition give you the jitters, forget it! That's where Leo, the Friendly Lion, comes in! He wants you to have plenty of top product during coming months to keep your customers movie-minded! It's an old M-G-M custom!

M-G-M RELEASES! JUNE! JULY! AUGUST!



CLARK GABLE



DEBORAH KERR



GREGORY PECK



ESTHER WILLIAMS



ELIZABETH TAYLOR



GENE KELLY

CLARK GABLE · DEBORAH KERR
Sydney Greenstreet · Adolphe Menjou · Ava Gardner
Keenan Wynn · Edward Arnold
"THE HUCKSTERS"

★

GREGORY PECK · JANE WYMAN
"THE YEARLING" *(Technicolor)*
with Claude Jarman, Jr.

★

ESTHER WILLIAMS
"FIESTA" *(Technicolor)*
introducing Ricardo Montalban

★

VAN JOHNSON · JUNE ALLYSON
"HIGH BARBAREE"

★

"DARK DELUSION"
Lionel Barrymore · James Craig · Lucille Bremer

★

ELIZABETH TAYLOR
"CYNTHIA"

★

GENE KELLY · MARIE McDONALD ("The BODY")
"LIVING IN A BIG WAY"

★

SPENCER TRACY · KATHARINE HEPBURN
ROBERT WALKER · MELVYN DOUGLAS
"THE SEA OF GRASS"

★

VAN JOHNSON
"THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE"

★

M-G-M

Friendly in the Summer Too!



VAN JOHNSON



JUNE ALLYSON



SPENCER TRACY



KATHARINE HEPBURN



ROBERT WALKER



MARIE McDONALD

Production on The Rise as Seven Start

HOLLYWOOD, May 27.—The production index rose from 38 to 42, with seven pictures going into the shooting stage, and only three to cutting rooms. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "Buckaroo from Powder River," with Charles Starrett, Smiley Burnette, Eve Miller, Paul Campbell; "The Lone Wolf in London," with Gerald Mohr, Nancy Saunders, Evelyn Ankers, Eric Blore.

Shooting: "The Last Round-Up," "The Sea Hound," "The Double Take," "It Had to Be You," "The Prince of Thieves," "The Man from Colorado," "Assigned to Treasury" (Kennedy-Buchman).

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: "A Texas Story," "Adventures of Casanova."

Enterprise

Shooting: "They Passed This Way."

M-G-M

Started: "If Winter Comes," with Walter Pidgeon, Deborah Kerr, Angela Lansbury, Binnie Barnes.

Shooting: "The Kissing Bandit," "Cass Timberlane," "Alias a Gentleman," "The Pirate," "Good News."

Paramount

Shooting: "Big Town After Dark" (Pine-Thomas), "Dream Girl," "Whispering Smith."

PRC

Finished: "Shadow Valley."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Memory of Love," "Mourning Becomes Electra," "The Bishop's Wife" (Goldwyn).

Republic

Started: "The Red Pony" (Feldman), with Myrna Loy, Robert Mitchum, Louis Calhern, Shepperd Strudwick.

Shooting: "Driftwood," "On Old Spanish Trails."

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie."

Screen Guild

Started: "Burning Cross" (Colmes), with Hank Daniels, Virginia Patton, Betty Roadman, Dick Rich.

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Kiss of Death."

Started: "Nightmare Alley," with Tyrone Power, Joan Blondell, Helen Walker, Coleen Gray.

Shooting: "Off to Buffalo," "Foxes of Harrow," "The Invisible Wall" (Wurtzel).

United Artists

Shooting: "The Time of Your Life" (Cagney), "Intrigue" (Bischoff).

Universal-International

Finished: "The Lost Moment."

Shooting: "Ride the Pink Horse," "Wistful Widow of Wagon Gap," "The Exile."

Warners

Started: "Ever the Beginning" (United States Pictures), with Lilli Palmer, Sam Wanamaker, Hugo Haas.

Shooting: "Silver River," "Treasure of the Sierra Madre," "Whiplash."

Reviews

"The Long Night"

(RKO Radio)

A NOTABLY thorough job is done here of exploring the mind of an American youth, who, in the ordinary course of events, gets caught in a series of circumstances and suddenly finds that he is a murderer. The young man, a returned veteran working in a steel plant, is ably portrayed by Henry Fonda. The story has a ring of simple honesty, a mood enhanced by directorial touches which capture realism in dialogue, townspeople, buildings and sets. It is clearly the type of picture in which an audience will project itself, a picture that will be talked about. This should mean dollar signs on the black side of the ledger.

The producing team of Robert and Raymond Hakim and Anatole Litvak does not present the ordinary story with a conventional hero. As it opens, Fonda, barricaded in his room, has just shot a man to death. Crowds gather downstairs as police engulf the scene and cover all avenues of escape. He becomes virtually a trapped animal through whose befogged mind there flows in stream-of-consciousness, the details of his tragedy. Like himself, Jo Ann, played by Barbara Bel Geddes, is an orphan. He meets and falls in love with her. But across her personality there falls the shadow of Vincent Price, a suave and silk-tongued magician who seems to have a strange hold over her. The more Fonda becomes attached to Miss Bel Geddes, the more Price becomes a capricious wedge driving them apart. To Price, Miss Bel Geddes is but another added to his long string of conquests. To the simple Fonda, Miss Bel Geddes encompasses all of life and hope.

As the tale unfolds in its flashbacks, it mounts with cumulative suspense. When Price goes to Fonda's little room to taunt him with stabbing implications about Miss Bel Geddes, the fateful shot is fired. As the film ends, Fonda finally emerges from his gas-filled room to surrender to the police and face trial.

Miss Bel Geddes, coming from the stage for her first screen role, offers an impressive vignette, while Ann Dvorak as a nightclub entertainer who tasted many of life's flambuoyant joys, but never knew enduring happiness, performs with sure competence. The screenplay as fashioned by John Wexley, from a story by Jacques Viot, is absorbing and believable all the way but occasionally tends to unwisely prolong scenes and moods. An Anatole Litvak Production, it was directed by him.

Running time, 101 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"The Patient Vanishes"

(Film Classics)

FILM CLASSICS gets off to an auspicious start in its initial venture as a distributor of first-run product. In the British-made "The Patient Vanishes," it presents a swift, rough-and-tumble action melodrama, which, in its category, rates very well. With James Mason in the starring role, showmen have a name of drawing power for the marquee.

When Mason, as a private detective, talks himself into a case, he finds he is steeped hip-deep in villainy. A girl, the daughter of an English Lord, has disappeared from a nursing home where she was under treatment. As the story develops, it reveals itself as a kidnapping case, with a heavy ransom demanded. As Mason goes about tracking down clues, he discovers that his opponents are an elusive assortment of criminals who don't play according to the Marquis of Queensberry rules. During the course of his sleuthing adventures, Mason bears down on the group only to find himself tricked into a gas chamber. In a last-minute scene, Scotland Yard intercedes, and a final bit of gunplay results in the elimination of the culprits.

The romantic angle which has been woven into the plot is held up by attractive Margaret Vyner who, in the finale, is there to bestow on Mason a rewarding kiss. Comic moments arising out of the rivalry between Mason and his father, a police inspector, gives the production an added appeal. Others in the cast include Mary Clare, Frederick Valk and Gordon McLeod, who under the direction of Lawrence Huntington, turn in competent performances. Made by Pathe Pictures, Ltd., John Argyle produced.

Running time, 78 minutes. General audience classification. For July release.

M. H.

Brown Promoted by UA

Dave Brown, formerly office manager of United Artists' Pittsburgh branch, has been promoted to salesman, with Jane Patterson succeeding as office manager, the company announces here.

Delay 'Copacabana'

Loew's Criterion here has pushed back the opening date of UA's "Copacabana" until June 4. The film was originally scheduled to open today.

Loew Shifts Two

Howard Rutherford has been appointed manager of Loew's Park, Cleveland, succeeding Abe Ludacer, who has been transferred to Loew's Valentine, Toledo. Ludacer succeeds Theodore Techner who is no longer with the company. Rutherford, who recently was discharged from the Navy, served for a number of years as assistant manager with Loew.

Walters Quits Cine Co.

ST. LOUIS, May 27.—Lou H. Walters, veteran theatre supply distributor, has resigned as president of Cine Supply Co., and sold his stock to RCA. He was previously associated with the old Lears Theatre Supply Co. and with National Theatre Supply, St. Louis and Cleveland.

German Film Talks Seen in Mid-June

WASHINGTON, May 27.—Conferences between industry representatives and War Department delegates on the American Military Government's proposed program to rehabilitate the German film industry, originally scheduled for this week, have been postponed until mid-June, for the return of Under-Secretary [illegible] Petersen, who left here this morning for Germany, War Department spokesmen said.

With Brig. Gen. Robert A. McClure, former chief of the information control division of the U. S. occupation forces in Germany, due here tomorrow, civil affairs spokesmen are expecting Eric Pommer, chief civilian consultant to AMG on the rehabilitation of the German film industry and former aide to McClure. Pommer's appearance is at the request of McClure. While Pommer is expected to participate in the film conferences to the extent of clarifying the German situation, civil affairs officials stated that his position will be purely consultative. Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, or Francis Harmon, Motion Picture Export Association vice-president, will probably speak for the industry at the talks.

Lorentz Aide to Succeed Him in U. S. Film Post This Week

WASHINGTON, May 27.—Henry Carlton, deputy to Pare Lorentz, will become acting chief of the films and theatre section of the civil affairs reorientation branch this week, when Lorentz's resignation becomes effective, the War Department announced today. Carlton, who was a lieutenant-colonel in the Army and worked with Lorentz for the Air Force, has been with the section since last July.

Asks Joint Action on US Information Bill

WASHINGTON, May 27.—Senator Hatch has introduced a bill calling for a joint Congressional committee to decide whether the Government's overseas information program should be a Government or private activity, directing that its recommendations be in by Jan. 15.

Willett Signs With Western Adventures

HOLLYWOOD, May 27.—Paul Willett has signed with Western Adventures Pictures Corp. to produce six Westerns annually in San Antonio, Tex. Western Adventures is a new releasing company organized by Screen Guild Productions franchise holders John Mangham, John Franconi and J. Francis White, Jr.

Smith Gets U-I Films

CHARLOTTE, May 27.—Holly Smith, owner and operator of Holly Smith Photographers' supplies, will handle all 16mm. films for Universal-International features in this area. Smith is well known as a commercial photographer, and has made a number of business films.

Hollander Joins Mono.

LOS ANGELES, May 27.—Harry Hollander, veteran theatre operator, has been appointed special sales representative by Monogram, with headquarters at the exchange here.

L. 6



Brush aside that lack-luster veil...use

HIGH INTENSITY PROJECTION

FOR the added cost of one or two admissions per day, you can make every black-and-white picture sparkle with detail . . . give rich, brilliant overtones to your color pictures . . . and *bring more people to your box office!*

You do it with High Intensity Projection.

For example, One-Kilowatt High Intensity Projection provides a 50-100 per cent brighter screen. It makes available to the small theatre the same impressive visibility and fidelity of color found on the screens of the largest big-city theatres. This means more pleasure for your audiences . . . and a consistently bigger box office!

. . .

Take advantage of the profits to be had from High Intensity Projection. Consult your supply house immediately on the availability of High Intensity lamps.

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Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

ST. LOUIS

An extensively-promoted reissue of "The Great Waltz" drew top first-run receipts in a week of generally improved business. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 28:

THE IMPERFECT LADY (Para.) and DANGER STREET (Para.)—AMBASSADOR (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $17,250)

CHEYENNE (WB) and WEB OF DANGER (Rep.)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c) 3 days Gross: $8,500. (Average, weekly: $19,400)

THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M reissue) and UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,900)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M) and DULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-60c-75c) on a moveover after week at Loew's State. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,600)

STALLION ROAD (WB) and BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $11,800)

CALCUTTA (Para.) and I COVER BIG TOWN (Para.)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $12,100)

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue) and THE BRASHER DOUBLOON (20th-Fox)—SHUBERT (2,000) (40c-50c-60c). Gross: $6,000.

ATLANTA

"Duel in the Sun" registered considerably above the house average. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 28:

THE IMPERFECT LADY (Para.)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $19,000)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.-Allied Artists)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,700)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $5,900. (Average: $6,300)

ONE MILLION B.C. (Favorite) and RENEGADE GIRL (Screen Guild)—CAPITAL (2,446) (12c-44c). Gross: $5,300. (Average: $5,200)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $32,000. (Average at regular prices of 30c-50c: $18,000)

CINCINNATI

"The Yearling," heading for 80 per cent over par at the RKO Capitol, is the leader in the current lineup. The weather is warm. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 27-30:

RAMROD (UA)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c - 55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE TRAP (Mono.) and BORDER FEUD (PRC)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600)

I'LL NAME THE MURDERER (Popular) and DUDE RANGER (Popular)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,100)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M) — RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $8,000)

SMASH-UP (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $7,500)

SCARLET PIMPERNEL (Film Classics) and THE RETURN OF THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL (Film Classics)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000)

BLAZE OF NOON (Para.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 4th week, following an initial week at the Palace and two weeks at the Shubert. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

BALTIMORE

Theatre managers are becoming more convinced that film fans are now shopping for pictures. For a number of weeks, major attractions have been doing big business and the routine programs are barely hitting average. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 29:

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $16,500)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $14,000)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c) 3rd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $12,000)

LOVE AND LEARN (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $16,500)

THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With stage show. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $17,500)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-44c-56c) 4th week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,500)

RAMROD (UA)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c). Gross: $6,750. (Average: $5,500)

IVAN THE TERRIBLE (Artkino)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-55c). Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—VALENCIA 1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 4th week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)

TORONTO

There was plenty to do on Victoria Day, first holiday of the summer season, so that Toronto first-run theatres did not reap much benefit. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 29:

EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,600. (Average: $5,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 10th week. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $7,800)

DEAD RECKONING (Col.)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,300. (Average: $14,300)

DISHONORED LADY (UA) and THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $13,800)

NORA PRENTISS (WB)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,800. (Average: $14,800)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 10th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,500)

SMASH-UP (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,900. (Average: $11,400)

EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $6,800)

PITTSBURGH

"The Angel and the Badman," at the Fulton, was the only newcomer to do near-average. Weather has been excellent, but there are many counter attractions. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 29:

ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross $9,500. (Average: $9,700)

BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,000)

THE RED HOUSE (UA)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-77c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $25,000)

DISHONORED LADY (UA)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)

MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY (Col.), THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.) — SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,200)

LOVE AND LEARN (WB) — STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $25,000)

TRAIL STREET (RKO-Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

Grosses are at the year's low here this week, due to the usual spring recession. Estimated receipts for week ending May 27-28:

IMPERFECT LADY (Para.) and SEVEN WERE SAVED (Para.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $10,000)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and BOSTON BLACKIE and THE LAW (Col.)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,300)

STALLION ROAD (WB) and BRINGING UP FATHER (Mono.)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-50c) on a moveover from the Indiana. Gross: $4,600. (Average: $6,500)

DISHONORED LADY (UA) and UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M) — LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $13,800)

THE LOCKET (RKO Radio) and WIFE WANTED (Mono.)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,700)

BUFFALO

"It Happened on Fifth Avenue" and "The Egg and I" are doing good business in a generally dull week. Weather has been rainy. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 31:

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox) and UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $19,000)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,000)

LOVE AND LEARN (WB) and THE BIG FIX (PRC)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,000)

THE THIEF OF BAGDAD (Film Classics) and THE GHOST GOES WEST (Film Classics)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $4,800. (Average: $6,000)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.) and MR. HEX (Mono.)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $17,200. (Average: $16,000)

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Holguin Named SRO Manager in Mexico

Alfredo Holguin has been named manager in Mexico for Selznick Releasing Organization, by Neil F. Agnew, SRO president, to work under the supervision of Manny Reiner, Latin-American sales manager. His headquarters will be in Mexico City, where SRO will shortly establish its own sales organization.

Holguin began in motion picture distribution in Mexico in 1930. For many years he was with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer as assistant manager, later held the same post with Pan-American Films, and recently was manager of Francia Films de Mexico. He resigned the latter position to take up his new duties.

New Company Named United Cal. Agency

Representatives of United California Productions, headed by Eugene Frenke, Robert Cummings and Philip Yordan, have arrived in New York from the Coast to inaugurate a series of conferences with local representatives of Discovery, Inc., which will represent the Hollywood corporation in the East.

Officials of Discovery, Inc., are Messmore Kendall, Frank Hale and Barbara Boston. They will immediately institute a talent-finding and literary property appraisal service, with an eye to locating material and personalities for the Hollywood group.

Patton Named Altec District Manager

Lane J. Patton has been appointed district manager for Altec in Atlanta, by H. M. Bessey, vice-president.

Patton was transferred to ERPI in 1928 from the engineering department of Western Electric where he had been employed for several years. His first ERPI assignment was with the operating department and he later transferred to service in Detroit and Pittsburgh.

Goad Joins Altec

CHICAGO, May 27.—Ernest A. Goad of Sault Sainte Marie, Mich., is the new Altec service inspector at Iron Mt., Mich. Goad had been a projectionist in the Eskin Circuit at Richland Center, Wis., and the Soo Amusement Co., at Sault Sainte Marie.

Eldredge Joins Para.

E. P. Eldredge, Jr., has joined Paramount International's Latin American division, of which A. L. Pratchett is manager. Eldredge, a newcomer to the industry, will serve as a trainee for about five months at the home office.

Siritzky Housewarming

Siritzky International, foreign film distributor, will hold a housewarming at its New York headquarters in the Fisk Building tomorrow afternoon.

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O'Brien

(Continued from page 1)

clearly defined field for all unions in the film business will prevent recurrence of jurisdictional strikes and disputes. Jurisdiction of the three principal film industry unions in Britain, of which his is the largest, is meticulously defined and there has been no invasion by one of the spheres of the others, he said.

"L. 6. root of the trouble here is that out[illegible] unions have attempted to circumscribe the legitimate functions of the IATSE, giving rise to jurisdictional controversy," O'Brien said. "Some of those unions must withdraw from the field entirely if there is to be labor peace in Hollywood."

He said that terms of a "controlled exchange" of studio technicians between Hollywood and London will be worked out by Walsh and himself before he leaves for London on June 11. O'Brien advocated regular joint meetings of the top labor executives of the British and American industries to settle mutual problems. He suggested that heads of other industry organizations could join in such conferences and that mutual help might be realized.

"The problems of the American and British film industries will be many and varied," he said, "but most of them will be of equal importance to the two industries, with their kindred viewpoints and aims. Neither industry is truly nationalistic any longer. The world is the market for films."

O'Brien disclosed that Eric Johnston believes O'Brien's plans to work out with Walsh an Anglo-American trade union committee is a good one.

O'Brien will meet John Davis, chief aide of J. Arthur Rank today when the latter arrives here.

O'Brien said the recently announced cooperative program of the Motion Picture Association and British Film Producers Association could accomplish much in the direction he has in mind. In this connection, he referred to Britain's "dollar problem," saying that many films that are sent to England should not have been sent and have no just claim to the scarce dollars they earn there.

"Some of them are not even considered worthy here," he remarked.

MPA Luncheon for O'Brien Tomorrow

A luncheon in honor of Tom O'Brien, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes, London, will be given here tomorrow at the Harvard Club by Gerald M. Mayer, managing director of the Motion Picture Association, international division.

Among those who will attend are: Joseph A. McConville, Jacob Segal, Charles Goldsmith, Arnold M. Picker, J. W. Piper, Albert Deane, R. K. Hawkinson, B. D. Lion, Murray and Emanuel Silverstone, Joseph E. Seidelman, Alfred E. Daff, Charles A. Kirby, Warren J. J. Glynn, Leo F. Samuels, William Levy, Richard F. Walsh, president of the IATSE, and Francis Harmon, vice-president of the MPA.

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"Dear Ruth"

(Continued from page 1)

Billy De Wolfe, the stuffed-shirt engaged to Miss Caulfield, and William Holden, American flier back from Italy and awaiting re-assignment.

He had received, and faithfully answered, 60 letters covering a wide range of topics, including love. Presumably, they were from Ruth (Miss Caulfield) when actually they were from Miss Freeman. Lonely and endangered by war, Holden has fallen in love and has written documentation to prove Miss Caulfield feels the same way. The rest of the mad scramble has to do with methods of unwinding the entanglement without damage to Holden beyond the delicate demands of a difficult task. It will come as no surprise for any audience to sense Miss Caulfield is swept off her feet into marriage with Holden. The detail is not vital beyond emphasizing the fun which it produces.

But there is something beyond just fun. There is something decidedly heart-warming and instinctively right about the adolescent Miss Freeman's reasons for what she has done. It is her way of strengthening the moral fibre and the spirit of a fighting man in a strange land. When she explains to her parents some buy war bonds and others donate at the blood bank, but that her device represents her contribution to the war effort, the reason becomes believable as well as touching despite its immaturity. This serious note is well blanketed with laughs and amusing dialogue, but it comes through.

Performances range from excellent to good. Arnold seldom has been better. Miss Philips is accurate as the mother. Miss Freeman steals many of the scenes in which she is the pivot. Miss Caulfield is nice in a less demanding way. Holden is boyishly impetuous and clean cut throughout. De Wolfe, in a sap role, is competent.

William D. Russell's direction is praiseworthy, recognizing as it should be that his basic material could hardly miss. "Dear Ruth," in sum, is a very funny show which ought to deliver a highly satisfactory account although it lacks strong marquee names in the romantic leads. Paul Jones produced.

Running time, 95 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, July 18.

RED KANN

ATA Drive

(Continued from page 1)

Loew's to join the ATA fold at a time when the circuit is so involved in the trust case and is not on the side of the ATA, which has taken a firm stand against competitive bidding.

Gamble emphasized that his does not mean waning interest in ATA on the part of its membership. He said that the members are fully aware of the organization's functions and are in complete accord with the measures taken by the officers and board.

He said that ATA scored a number of times in its efforts to combat bidding both in the New York and Washington courts in behalf of members, and that the latter, too, were wholly in agreement with the ATA regime's policy of cooperation with American Brotherhood Week, Greek War Relief, and other causes.

Operators Seek 30% Increase on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, May 27.—Motion Picture Operators Local 150, IATSE, will demand a 30 per cent increase and extensively revised working conditions in negotiations for a new contract with circuit executives. At a preliminary session with circuit executives today, the local set June 16 for resumption of negotiations.

Marcus Loew's Dividend

TORONTO, May 27.—Following the redemption of its preferred shares, Marcus Loew's, Ltd., has declared a dividend of one per cent, equal to one dollar per share on common stock, payable June 30.

KRS Opposes

(Continued from page 1)

stated that KRS investigations resulted in the recovery of many stolen 16mm. prints and brought about prosecutions of persons accused of stealing or receiving them. However, the report added, "a long time must elapse before illicit practices are stamped out because of rings known to be operating in various parts of the country."

Exhibitors' rental returns increased by 25 per cent, it was revealed by the report in an account of the activities of KRS special checkers who made 11,267 check-ups during the year.

Rank Setback

(Continued from page 1)

in-chambers here, issued an order denying the application of Rank and associates to have a previous order rescinded which allows service on the defendants outside of Toronto. Conant made the provision, however, that each applicant may make a conditional appearance here for further argument.

Denial of the application means that the plaintiffs may serve the original writ of action against the defendant individuals or companies in the U. S. or elsewhere.

Columbia Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

discuss general sales matters covering both this and the coming season's product, as well as promotional plans for forthcoming top-flight pictures which will be sold individually and apart from the regular program.

Award to MGM Today

The Widows of World War III, a society to prevent further wars, will present its annual Memorial Day award to M-G-M for "The Beginning or the End," in a special ceremony today at the Sheraton Hotel, here. Hume Cronyn, M-G-M star, who appeared in the picture, will accept the award.

33-Million US Tax

(Continued from page 1)

out that February has fewer days than March.

This is the first time the Treasury gave official figures solely for admission taxes. Although the current figure still includes sporting events, concerts, stage shows and some other events in addition to film admissions, until now the monthly figure has also included taxes on roof gardens and cabarets, ticket brokers' sales in excess of box-office prices, leases of boxes or seats, and admissions sold by proprietors in excess of established prices.

Because of the new basis of reporting tax collections, there is no comparison with last year's figures on the single item of admission taxes. However, on the over-all figure, including cabaret and other taxes, Federal collections in April, 1947, totaled $38,619,325, compared with $36,472,413 in April 1946. The over-all figure from July 1, 1946 to April 30, 1947 was $387,659,803, compared with $342,913,284 between July 1, 1945 and April 30, 1946.

Tax Cut Vital

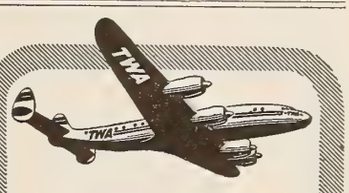
(Continued from page 1)

trenchment would be the consequence.

When it was suggested that halting the Government's inroads on theatre revenue might mean commensurate increases in local taxation, Gamble expressed assurance that this could be avoided by full-fledged, concerted exhibitor resistance to any new community, county or state tax measures. He spoke of the war years as having contributed to a certain exhibitor apathy as far as adverse legislation is concerned and stressed the need for complete unity to fight such adverse moves.

The salary level within the film business is third highest of all industries in the country, Gamble said, this being based upon figures made available to him when he headed the Treasury Department's War Finance Committee.

Gamble claimed that the fight to cut the Federal tax was first launched by the ATA and that subsequently other exhibitor organizations joined in.



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DEFA Produced 5 Features, Newsreels

By H. ZU LOEWENSTEIN

BERLIN, May 20. (By Airmail).—The DEFA studios in Saxony has produced five features, plus 12 "kultur" pictures, 34 newsreels, seven documentaries and several shorts, F. Lindeman, DEFA chairman, discloses. The new schedule includes "The Day Will Come," and a screen version of "Woyzeck."

The British-licensed company, Camera-Film, has completed "In Those Days" in studios in Hamburg. The picture deals with Hitler's rise to power, and was directed by Helmut Kautner, who will also direct "All That Matters" for Camera-Film at the newly opened Aufbau-Film studio at Goettingen.

Atlas-Filmverleih, the first distributing company in the British zone, has been formed at Hamburg.

Albany Variety Club To Greet Delegates

ALBANY, N. Y., May 27.—A welcome-home dinner for C. J. Latta, Harry Lemont and Nate Winig, convention delegates, will be given by Tent No. 9, Variety Club, on June 2. Following the dinner, a Variety Hollywood convention report will be given by the three delegates.

Neil Hellman, chief barker, also announced that the club's annual golf tournament is to be held on June 16 at the Colonie Country Club. The committee in charges includes Arthur Newman, chairman; Alton Mendelson, Charles Smakwitz, Edward Wall, Dr. Sam Kalison, Jerry Atkins and Nate Winig.

Charles Bullock, 59 Dies in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, May 27.—Charles Bullock, 59, president of operators' union Local No. 160, since 1932 and chairman of its executive committee for the same number of years, died Sunday at his home here. He was a son of the late Sam Bullock, a pioneer exhibitor of Cleveland and an organizer of the local exhibitors' association.

Surviving are his widow, Patricia, two daughters, Mrs. Edythe Skody and Lynn Bullock; three sons, Robert G., Charles H. and Russell R., and his mother, sister and two brothers.

1,200 at Services For Strausberg

Services were held yesterday at the Brooklyn Jewish Center for Samuel Strausberg, 65, Interboro Theatres president, who died at Doctors Hospital last Friday after an illness of four months. The eulogy was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Israel Leventhal.

More than 1,200 attended the services. Interment was at Beth David Cemetery, Elmont, L. I. Some 75 cars were in the cortege.

Lasky Seeks Talent

Jesse L. Lasky has arrived here to interview stage players for featured roles in "The Miracle of the Bells," which he is preparing to film for RKO-Radio release. Irving Pichel, who will direct the picture, will participate in the interviews.

U. S. Compares World Theatres

Washington, May 27.—The United States Department of Commerce today released a report comparing total motion picture theatres in 1940 and 1947, as follows:

Region	*Number of Theatres, 1940*	*Number of Theatres, 1947*	*Seating Capacity, 1947**
Europe	36,779	51,227	16,708,907
Central and S. America	4,786	6,331	4,398,321
Far East	3,308	2,779	1,457,913
South Pacific	2,045	2,083	1,439,556
Middle East	1,199	1,844	952,103
Africa	893	1,207	719,560
Caribbean	509	659	379,143
Atlantic Island	103	122	59,363
Canada	1,257	1,493	775,552
United States	17,003**	18,765**	11,393,660
Puerto Rico	121	130	69,600
Total	67,997	86,640	38,353,678

(*) No seating capacity totals are available for 1940.
(**) Latest revised totals of U. S. theatres, compiled by the industry's War Activities committee in 1945, as obtained from the books of distributors, listed 16,891, including 1,916 part-time theatres, but excluding 958 U. S. Army theatres.

British Films Get South Africa Favor

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, May 18 (By Airmail).—British features are suddenly enjoying a spell of popularity here, where for so long American product has been favored. Previously British pictures had never quite reached a popularity in the same degree as American pictures, chiefly because English subtitles were not always understood here. Now, such British films as "Hungry Hill" and "Odd Man Out" are outstanding hits.

This coincides with an announcement that many more British films are to be shown in this country as a result of new J. Arthur Rank contracts with African Consolidated Theatres.

Liberalize Child Law

HARTFORD May 27. — The governor has signed Senate bill No. 262, effective on Oct. 1, which, according to a bulletin of the MPTO of Connecticut, "would permit the admission of children under 14 without being accompanied by a parent or guardian, until 6 P.M." After six o'clock it will be required that such children be accompanied by an adult.

Gibralter to Build Nine New Theatres

Denver, May 27.—Gibralter Enterprises, composed of several theatre owners in this territory and headed by Charles R. Gilmour, will build at least nine new theatres as soon as material restrictions are relaxed. One house has been approved by the CPA and construction on this, a 1,000-seat, $150,000 theatre at Santa Fe, N. M., will be built at once. Gibralter has plans for another house here later.

Other plans include theatres at Craig, Colo., $70,000, to replace the Craig, destroyed by fire; Silver City, N. M., $150,000; Ordway, Colo., $70,000; Loveland, Colo, $85,000; Socorro, N. M., $70,000; Raton, N. M., $125,000; Alamosa, Colo., $125,000.

Grosses in Mexico Are on the Decline

MEXICO CITY, May 27. — Reports that local theatres are doing less business are substantiated by official figures covering grosses during the first three months of 1947. The figures on decreasing revenue follow: January, $1,355,880; February, $1,133,725; March, $1,158,009.

The drop in theatre trade, however, is considerably less than that in many other businesses here. General local business is said to be from 40 per cent to 50 per cent below this time last year. Pictures continue to be by far Mexico's most popular diversion.

Legion Rates Seven Additional Pictures

Two of seven additional pictures classified by the National Legion of Decency have been placed in Class A-I; they are: Republic's "Bells of San Angelo" and PRC's "Border Feud." Listed as Class A-II were: "Love and Learn," Warners; "The Other Love," United Artists, and "Spoilers of the North," Republic.

Eagle-Lion's "Lost Honeymoon" and Paramount's "Trouble With Women" were placed in Class B.

Peterson Transferred

WASHINGTON, May 27. — Ivar H. Peterson has been transferred from the employee-employer relations department of the National Association of Broadcasters to its legal department. He will serve as an NAB attorney.

New Small Screen

The Radiant Manufacturing Corp. has placed a new low-priced tripod model screen on the market. The portable features a self-locking lowering and raising device for quick adjustment of screen height.

3 New SAG Directors

HOLLYWOOD, May 27.—Olivia DeHavilland, Lloyd Nolan and Tyrone Power have been appointed to the Screen Actors Guild board of directors to replace the three members who resigned.

86,640 Theatres

(*Continued from page* 1)

pensating factor. That is the reason, Golden says, that the Department of Commerce asked for cabled reports from foreign service representatives abroad on theatre statistics.

Large increases were noted in Europe, Central and South America, Africa, the Caribbean, Canada and the U. S. Only one area—the Far East—showed a decrease over the seven-year period.

In Europe, where a total of 51,227 theatres are now reported against 36,779 in 1940, the largest increase is attributed to more accurate theatre figures from the Soviet Union.

In 1940, only 3,000 commercial theatres were reported in Russia, whereas today it is recorded with 17,500.

War damage accounted for a drop in the number of German theatres from 5,506 to 3,703, and Czechoslovakian figures decreased from 2,405 to 1,922.

The United Kingdom also showed a drop over the seven years, from 5,300 to 4,800.

Italy shows a sharp increase, from 4,013 to 5,400, while French theatres increased from 4,650 to 5,403.

In the South Pacific area, an increase in the number of Australian theatres, from 1,400 to 1,600, was offset largely by a decrease in New Zealand theatres, from 618 to 461. In the Middle East, India registered close to 600 theatres gained during the seven years, now having 1,605, compared with 1,030 in 1940. Egypt, Algeria and the Union of South Africa accounted for the major gains in Africa.

US Approves Six More Projects

WASHINGTON, May 27. — Six more theatre project approvals have been announced by the Office of the Housing Expediter.

They are: Northern Arizona Theatres, Inc., Flagstaff, Ariz., alteration and repairs; Dayshore Amusement Co., Millbrae, Cal., theatre building; Maurice Kleinman and Millard Jones, Odessa, Tex., change in location of drive-in theatre; Elmer C. Rhoden, Jr., Joplin, Co., new theatre; Harold Nusbaum, Richland County, O., theatre completion; Thomas E. Orr, Attalia, Ala., new theatre.

$1,000,000 Alaska House

SEATTLE, May 27.—A $1,000,000 theatre, built at Anchorage, Alaska, by Capt. A. E. Lathrop, will open on Decoration Day with a single-feature policy. Originally scheduled to open last Feb. 22, the theatre is equipped with a huge waiting room to accommodate patrons who arrive too late for a show and will not be allowed to disturb an audience.

Indian Theatre Sought

The India Society, an organization devoted to promoting cultural exchanges between India and the U. S., is seeking a theatre, preferably in the Times Square area, to present Indian motion pictures, dance recitals and other theatrical events.

Foreign Film House

SAN FRANCISCO, May 27. — Carol Nathan and Eddie Baron, owners of the El Presidio and Marina Theatres, will turn the El Presidio into an exclusively foreign-film house, to be the third such theatre in San Francisco.

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Intensified Communist Probe Urged

House Group Demands a Full Hollywood Study

WASHINGTON, May 28.—Intensification of the investigations being made by the House Un-American Activities Committee into Communistic activities in Hollywood was recommended today by the sub-committee which has been probing Communism on the Coast, in a report on its Hollywood investigations. Committee officials indicated this would be put into effect probably in the late summer.

The sub-committee today declared that "there is no question as to the serious inroads that the Communists have made in the motion picture industry," and criticized studio heads for being lax in their efforts to remove Communists.

It also charged that "some of the most flagrant Communist propaganda films were produced as a result of

(*Continued on page* 14)

Fabian-UA Bid in 'Talk Stage' Only

The $15,000,000 offer for United Artists, made to owners Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin by Si Fabian, Eastern circuit operator and president of American Theatres Association, is the subject of continuing conversations here and on the West Coast and has not yet progressed beyond the "talking stage," a principal in the negotiations said yesterday.

Meetings between two or more of

(*Continued on page* 14)

Monogram 39-Week Income Improves

Monogram president Steve Broidy reported here yesterday a net profit of $260,991, after all charges and taxes, for the 39 weeks ended March 29, compared to a net of $248,976 for

(*Continued on page* 14)

No Paper Tomorrow

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published tomorrow, Memorial Day, a legal holiday.**

Pathe Labs Can Process One Billion Feet Yearly

Upon completion next year of its $2,500,000 four-story laboratory building here, Pathe Industries, Inc., will be equipped to process 1,000,000,000 feet of film annually, the company reports. At present, with plants located in Bound Brook, N. J., Hollywood and New York, the company processes some 400,000,000 feet a year through its affiliate, Pathe Laboratories, Inc.

(A special section devoted to the new RKO Pathe Studio and Pathe Industries laboratory in New York is published in this issue, Pages 5 to 14.)

The new building, occupying 125,000 square feet of land, is being built by

(*Continued on page* 10)

Hirliman Budgets 8 At $2,300,000

George Hirliman said here yesterday he plans to produce six features in Canada, budgeted at $250,000 each and two in New York, to cost $400,000 each, all for release by Screen Guild Productions. He said he will produce independently with no financial participation by the distributor.

Most of the product will consist of remakes of films which he now owns, Hirliman reported, adding that he now

(*Continued on page* 14)

Believes Para. Will Buy Out Partners

That Paramount will buy up "most of its chains, theatre by theatre, after intensive study of the economic prospects of local situations," by way of complying with the Federal Court decree concerning divestiture of theatre partnerships of more than five per cent and less than 95 per cent, is described by *Fortune* magazine for June as "the most intelligent guess" of what the company's policy will be.

Paramount, its executives, background and operations are the subject of an elaborate article which, with pictures, extends through 17 pages of the magazine.

The article states that Paramount theatres contributed between 60 and 65 per cent of Paramount's 1946 record profits of $44,042,000, adding that the theatres' earnings "vary enormously from year to year, according to the box-office value of the studio's product."

It asserts that Paramount's theatre investments are carried on the company's books at $65,000,000, and that some estimates of their actual worth are five times that figure. It mentions Paramount interests in 1,537 theatres, of which some 1,075 may be affected by the Federal Court decree, but states that Paramount can give no exact figure of the number of theatres in which it is interested, due to

(*Continued on page* 14)

"Possessed"

[*Warner Brothers*] — Joan Crawford Triumphs

NO ONE can foretell what the remaining seven months of the year will show by way of product. Regardless, Joan Crawford's performance in "Possessed" unquestionably will be in the running for Academy Award honors. In a deeply-moving and emotion-stirring characterization of a mentally unstable woman, her work here is a topflight performance and a personal achievement. "Possessed" is her picture from opening to closing.

No pretty story is told. Nor is this an attraction for those who find their entertainment in the light and frothy. "Possessed" is serious, brooding, and sombre, and for those who have an appreciation for strong drama faithfully sustained by excellence of acting, intelligence of direction and believability of treatment.

Miss Crawford, wandering in Los Angeles, is sent to a psychopathic ward where Stanley Ridges administers narco-synthesis to restore her memory. By way of flashbacks, he pieces together her story.

It deals with her love for Van Heflin, structural engineer, who refuses to be bound. Determined to hold him by any device, she marries wealthy

(*Continued on page* 14)

Seek 34% Rise Here for 1,200 'IA' Operators

Local '306' Also Submits Welfare Fund Demand

A demand for a 34 per cent wage increase for 1,200 members of projectionists' Local No. 306, IATSE, was submitted here yesterday by the union to the Loew, RKO, Skouras and Randforce circuit managements here.

It is expected that after a study of the demands, circuit executives will meet with a 13-man union negotiating committee, within two weeks. The present two-year contract expires on Aug. 31.

Also included in the demands is a request—for the first time—for a five per cent welfare fund. The local further seeks time-and-a-half for Saturdays, double time for Sundays, and general safety and sanitary provisions.

The demands were formulated by a union committee which presented them to the local executive board on Tuesday night, when the board voted approval.

Warner Wage Talks For 600 Deadlocked

Wage negotiations between Warners and the Motion Picture Home Office Employes Local No. H-63, IATSE, for more than 600 home office employes have reached an impasse.

The union's board is expected to call a general membership meeting for

(*Continued on page* 14)

Barron Is Trustee Of D.C. Area MPF

WASHINGTON, May 28.—Carter Barron, Loew's Eastern division manager, and John J. Payette, Warner Washington zone manager, have been elected national trustee and permanent chairman of the Washington

(*Continued on page* 14)

2 Reviews Today

In addition to "Possessed" in adjoining column, "Living in a Big Way" is reviewed on page 14. Key city grosses are on page 4.

Personal Mention

MARIAN F. JORDAN, MPEA manager in Germany, will leave New York today by plane to take up his post in Berlin.

•

MAURICE A. BERGMAN, Universal-International Eastern advertising-publicity head; AL HORWITS, Eastern publicity chief, and CHARLES SIMONELLI, special events director, have returned to New York from Cincinnati.

•

IKE and HARRY KATZ, Kay Film Exchanges executive, are here from Atlanta.

•

NORMAN AYERS, Warner Southern division sales manager, is on a trip to New Orleans and Memphis.

•

TERRY TURNER, RKO Radio exploitation manager, left New York yesterday for the Coast.

•

SI FABIAN will speak tonight at the final session of New York University's program on theatre management.

•

ROBERT TAPLINGER, Enterprise advertising-publicity chief, left here for the Coast last night.

•

FRED RAPHAEL of Walt Disney's studio has arrived here from the Coast.

•

LOUIS J. KAUFMAN, Warner Theatres executive, left here last night for Cleveland.

•

ROBERT W. CHAMBERS, MPA research department head, returned here yesterday from the Coast.

Rank Playing Time Refusal Hit in UK

LONDON, May 28.—Refusal of J. Arthur Rank to grant extended runs in his British theatres to any pictures but his own is evoking criticism in political, non-industry circles here. How can Americans be expected to give playing time in their theatres to British product of potentially doubtful audience appeal if Britain, in the person of Rank, will not reciprocate playing time, Labor Party representatives comment. Their view is reinforced by Sir Arthur Jarratt, British Lions' managing director, who said today that the whole British booking system needs to be overhauled.

Said Jarratt: "No matter what a film's artistic merit may be, Odeon (Rank's circuit) won't play it longer than a week unless it is Rank-made. The maximum home market gross is obtainable only from extended runs, where justified."

Rank's Gaumont-British and Odeon circuits have refused to play David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" on a wide, extended-run basis as done in the U. S. Selznick's representatives here have been waiting for some time for the producer to sanction lesser exhibition offers.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

TRADE-HEP observers who noted the loving attention turned loose on Robert Young, along with J. Arthur Rank, at that mass interview held in New York several weeks ago, wondered why. The wonder embraced such speculations as [1] —Does this mean something beyond Eagle-Lion brews between them? Or [2]—Does Young's friendship with Nate Blumberg and vice versa augur a direct business alliance in the future?

The answers run roughly like this:

There is nothing more pending between Rank and Young than their present association suggests. That's for now, anyway.

There is no plan for Young to enter Universal whether through financing or buy-ins.

■

However, Young is more actively interested in the film industry today than at any time since he entered it via the laboratory route and Pathe some years ago. Because that active interest exists, it is reasonable to conclude he will do something about it. When and where remain to be seen.

It may or may not be widely known that Young has had his fingers in a couple of big film deals which never materialized. There was the time a few years ago when he was deliberating over the possibility of acquiring Floyd B. Odlum's major interest in RKO for about $3,500,000. The war and the drain on manpower decided him against it.

The more recent manoeuvre under which Al Lichtman and the late Frank Orsatti would have bought United Artists appears to trace to Young's doorstep. If it had gone through, Young would have been the owner and Lichtman president of UA.

■ ■

One who should know yesterday described the Fabian negotiations for purchase of UA as "hot." Other such deals have been warm, and warmer, before. The position of Mary Pickford and Charlie Chaplin, in whose hands rests the decision, however, seems to be clouded in doubt. The report now is the partners are not getting along as cozily as they did a few weeks ago.

The significance of this might leave its mark on the Fabian deal. For instance, if Chaplin were ready to sell, Mary might assume the position she didn't want to go along because——— Because what? Just because Chaplin did.

Meanwhile, Fabian is so strong for the buy he is reported willing to affix his personal signature on a substantial hunk of the financing which the First National Bank of Boston is prepared to underwrite.

■

The negotiations with Joe Vogel—they're dead now—would have allowed him to name his own salary. Along with that would have gone 15 per cent of the UA stock returned to the company treasury when the fuss with David O. Selznick was settled. This block would have become Vogel's as he entered the presidency and was to have been paid off on the basis of valuations established when UA reacquired it from Selznick.

The entire proposal was quite a compliment to the veteran Loew executive, who recognized it as such, naturally. But his many years of association with Nick Schenck finally won out.

Thus Schenck held another of "his boys."

■ ■

Interesting experiment is about to pop. For the first time in this country, "Henry V" will open at the Broadway Theatre June 6 on a grind policy at prevailing Main Stem prices. It's been two-a-day, reserved seats everywhere until now. No one knows the outcome, but a lot of people are full of hope.

■ ■

Commenting on the wave of films dealing with the psychopathic, Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., whose quips make this space from time to time, observes:

"We've got the topper. We're going to make one about a producer going nuts."

■ ■

An authoritative spokesman advises ignoring Coast stories indicating Enterprise will swing its domestic distribution from UA to Loew's when the contract with the former distributor runs out.

■ ■

Sam Rinzler, Brooklyn circuit operator and wit, holds to this definition:

"I was never so happy as the time I played a picture on percentage and the distributor forgot to send a checker."

March of Time Films Released in 16mm

The March of Time on Monday will begin releasing 16mm regular theatrical releases, the first two to be "The American Cop" and "Problem Drinkers." The films, not to be mistaken with the regular Forum Edition films, are selected on the basis of particular appeal and usefulness to a specific group.

367 Films Registered

Some 367 foreign features were registered under the Quota Act in England during the year ended March 31, 1947, according to the British Board of Trade. Due to an error in cable transmission, the number was recently reported at 637.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
John MILLS • Valerie HOBSON
in J. Arthur Rank's
"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
Shirley Temple • Franchot Tone • Guy Madison
in
Honeymoon

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st B'way Showing!
TOMMY & JIMMY DORSEY
Janet BLAIR
Paul Whiteman
'THE FABULOUS DORSEYS'
IN PERSON
LEO CARRILLO
THE BERRY BROS.
THE SMOOTHIES
ROSS & STONE
THE CHADWICKS

RAY MILLAND • TERESA WRIGHT
in "The Imperfect Lady"
A Paramount Picture
in Person
BUDDY CLARK
THE MODERNAIRES
JAN MURRAY
THE ACROMANIACS
BOYD RAEBURN AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

28th WEEK!
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES
THE BEST FILM OF THE YEAR!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
ASTOR
B'WAY & 45th ST.

On Stage! In Person!
JACK BENNY
Plus! PHIL HARRIS • ROCHESTER
Marjorie Reynolds - Sportsmen Quartet
On Screen:
"THE BRASHER DOUBLOON"
George Montgomery - Nancy Guild
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

NOW IN NEW YORK THE THRILL OF

'POSSESSED'



JOAN CRAWFORD · VAN HEFLIN · "POSSESSED"

RAYMOND MASSEY · GERALDINE BROOKS · DIRECTED BY CURTIS BERNHARDT · PRODUCED BY JERRY WALD

Play by Silvia Richards and Ranald MacDougall • Based Upon a Story by Rita Weiman • Music by Franz Waxman • Director of Photography Joseph Valentine, A.S.C.

WARNER ACHIEVEMENT!

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

Dreary weather was reflected in most first-run grosses. Registering strong were "The Farmer's Daughter" and "The Web." Estimated receipts for the week ended May 28:

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—BELMONT (1,600) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-85c-$1.00: $7,100)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) 50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $11,500)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.-Allied Artists)—CHINESE (2,300) (50-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $18,200)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $18,100)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—EL REY (861) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-$1.00: $6,800)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $13,300)

THE WEB (U-I)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $5,900)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $19,800)

THE WEB (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $7,200)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.-Allied Artists) and FALL GUY (Mono.)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $28,600)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $22,600)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.-Allied Artists)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,500)

FUN ON A WEEKEND (UA) and SUSIE STEPS OUT (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,700)

FUN ON A WEEKEND (UA) and SUSIE STEPS OUT (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $14,200)

FUN ON A WEEKEND (UA) and SUSIE STEPS OUT (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,400)

FUN ON A WEEKEND (UA) and SUSIE STEPS OUT (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,700)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1..25) 3rd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-85c-$1.00: $18,800)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,800)

BELLS OF SAN ANGELO (Rep.) and TRAIL TO SAN ANTONE (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $26,600)

BELLS OF SAN ANGELO (Rep.) and TRAIL TO SAN ANTONE (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $16,100)

THE WEB (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $9,600)

THE WEB (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,100)

THE WEB (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $15,800)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.-Allied Artists)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,200)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—VOGUE (800) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 21st week. Gross: $6,500. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-85c-$1.00: $10,000)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,500. $1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $18,200)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $15,500)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-(Average: $14,900)

CHICAGO

Loop tallies for this week show a definite decline in business. Theatres have had ample competition from good spring weather and accompanying outdoor sports. Estimated receipts for the week ended May 26-27:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 22nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,000)

CALCUTTA (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900). On stage, Sammy Kaye and orchestra. Gross: $50,000. (Average: $59,000)

THE MIGHTY McGURK (M-G-M)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO-Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $16,000)

DISHONORED LADY (UA)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage, Ink Spots and June Richmond. Gross: $37,500. (Average: $39,000)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (95c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $26,000)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $20,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (Advanced prices: $1.20-$1.50). Gross: $65,000. (Average at regular prices: $30,000)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c). Gross: $25,500. (Average: $26,000)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (Advanced prices: 95c-$1.20-$1.40-$1.80) 23rd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average at regular admission price of 95c: $17,000)

SAN FRANCISCO

Grosses were generally uneven. "The Farmer's Dughter" was holding up in its fourth week. Estimated receipts for the week ending May 30:

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 4th week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $14,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—FOX (4,651) (Advanced price: $1.25) 3rd week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $32,000)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00) 4th week. With vaudeville. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $32,000)

DESTRY RIDES AGAIN (U-I) and WHEN THE DALTONS RODE (U-I)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $6,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—UNITED NATIONS (1,129) (Advanced price: $1.25) 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average at regular prices: $6,000)

DESTRY RIDES AGAIN (U-I) and WHEN THE DALTONS RODE (U-I)—TIVOLI (1,008) (55c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $10,000)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) and DANGER STREET (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,735). (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $23,000)

Services Held for S. A. Davidson

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 28.—Funeral services were held in Cherryvale, Kan., today for Samuel A. Davidson, retired theatre owner who died here Sunday. An oldtime exhibitor who was formerly active in the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association, Davidson owned houses at Neodesha and Cherryvale more than 30 years ago. After his wife died, he came to live here near his son, Frank, operator of the Ritz here. Another son, Henry L., is in the theatre business in northern Ohio, while a third son, Lloyd E., is manager of a circuit in Iowa.

Short Subject

"Wonder-Eye"

(*The World Today—United Artists*)

Initial short subject documentary in a series being produced by John Grierson's The World Today, Inc., "Wonder-Eye" presents an engrossing examination of the motion picture camera's wide adaptability.

The amazingly miraculous eye of the X-ray camera bares the inner workings of human and animal bodies in one instance, and in others there is shown camera speed-up of the growth of plants, how the earth looks from stratospheric heights, slow-motion techniques, and other interesting filming accomplishments. Produced by Stuart Legg and directed and edited by Guy Glover, this is a very entertaining and instructive short. Running time, 10 minutes.

Para. Decided Bids On Merits in Tests

Paramount has determined the "licensing merits" of theatres in substantial competition and in dispute on the right to priority run by competitive bidding in about 75 situations, according to a company spokesman.

The company is now granting prior runs to those houses which have proven capable of yielding revenue exceeding their competitors.

The 75 situations involved are said to have constituted the most difficult run-demand cases confronting the company and in which bidding provided the best solution.

Within the past few weeks Paramount eliminated general bidding operations. However, reasonable demands for runs by exhibitors are studied on their merits.

Shorts Rental Rise Finds Favor: Morgan

HOLLYWOOD, May 28.—Exhibitors in general are displaying readiness to pay increased rentals for short subjects and newsreels. Paramount short subjects chief Oscar Morgan said here yesterday following a sales meeting at the local exchange.

Morgan, who is making his annual swing around the territories, said theatre men have come to understand that increased production costs affecting feature pictures, due to raised labor wage levels and other factors, have affected short subjects likewise. Additional factor in the changed attitude of exhibitors, according to Morgan, is a continuing swing from double to single bill policy, which requires greater use of shorts.

Owners Would Accept Slight License Rise

CHICAGO, May 28.—Morris Leonard, attorney for Balaban and Katz and a spokesman for other local owners, said today that Chicago theatre owners will not agree to a three per cent additional amusement tax on admissions even if other amusements followed suit. He did say, however, that in the face of present business conditions, they would agree to a slight increase in license fees, provided fees for other businesses are also increased.

N. Y. Trial is Out For Empire's Suit

TORONTO, May 28.—The suit of Empire Universal Films and United World Pictures of Canada against J. Arthur Rank and other defendants, under Ontario Supreme Court jurisdiction here, must be tried at Osgoode Hall, Toronto, probably next fall.

A new ruling says, "If it is tried in both Ontario and New York State, a multiplicity of proceedings would result. There should not be much difficulty in establishing in our courts the relevant law of the neighboring state of New York.

Among the other defendants in the action, which involves performance of alleged contracts for distribution in Canada of certain Hollywood films, are: Universal Pictures, International Pictures, United World, Eagle-Lion, and the J. Arthur Rank Organization, Inc., all of New York, who will have to appear at the Toronto trial.

Another defendant is Monogram Pictures of Canada and this angle is believed to confirm that Canadian Monogram is controlled by Rank, through Oscar R. Hanson. Such a relationship is not denied here and is understood to have been in effect for months, in fact, since Hanson went to England more than a year ago to organize Gaumont-Kalee, Ltd., of Canada.

QP Award Winner Sets '47 Entry Here

Just as Nathan Wise of RKO Theatres, Cincinnati, and Ivan Ackery of Famous Players-Canadian Corp., Vancouver, winners of the 1946 Quigley Awards for Showmanship, dropped in at the office of Max Youngstein, Eagle-Lion sales manager, on a round of visits here yesterday, the sales department called in the first date for E-L's "Repeat Performance" following its recent premiere at Zanesville, Ohio.

The date was for the RKO Grand, Cincinnati, June 11.

Wise, Youngstein and Jerry Pickman of E-L got down to business immediately, with the result that a complete campaign for the opening at the Grand was mapped out on the spot. Campaign may be entered in the next Quigley Awards contest.

New N. W. Drive-In

KENNEWICK, WASH., May 28.—Construction has been started on a drive-in theatre, one-mile west of Kennewick, by the Midstate Amusement Co. owner. The theatre will be locally managed.

Another WB Reissue

In combination with the Al Jolson picture, "Go Into Your Dance," Warner Brothers will reissue another musical, "Sing Me a Love Song," in which James Melton was starred.

Gen'l Precision Dividend

Directors of General Precision Equipment Corp. has declared a dividend of 25 cents per share on the capital stock, payable June 25, to stockholders of record on June 9.

New Mexican Company

MEXICO CITY, May 28.—Productora Mexicana has been organized here by a syndicate headed by Jorge Abarca Calderon, to produce.

Group of Young Executives Tops Historic Pathe

Thirty-seven years ago Charles Pathe established in France the Pathe Journal, an organization which since has grown from a camera and an idea into a mammoth diary of modern history. The American edition of Pathe Journal, established in September of the first production year, 1910, was Pathe News which, in July, 1942, was reorganized as RKO Pathe, Inc., with Frederic Ullman, Jr., as president.

In 1942, also, the "This Is America" documentary series was added to the RKO Pathe schedule, which includes "Sportscopes," this year celebrating its 10th anniversary, and other short features. Today the production focal point for all is the 11-story "skyscraper" Pathe studio building at Park Avenue and 106th Street in New York, which RKO Pathe occupies under long-term lease from Pathe Industries, Inc.

The executive operations of the studio, which Ullman heads, are shared by a number of other top men of industry experience, including Walton C. Ament, vice-president and general manager; Jay Bonafield, vice-president in charge of production, Alfred Butterfield, editor of Pathe News, and Phil Reisman, Jr., RKO Pathe editorial manager.

Ament Advanced

In 1942 Ament was appointed vice-president of Pathe News, Inc., and was elected to the board of directors. He became vice-president and general manager last January, and in that post supervises all production, editorial and business affairs of RKO Pathe, including the Pathe Newsreel, the "This Is America" series, "Sportscopes," "Flicker Flashbacks," and commercial and special-purpose films. Additionally, he is responsible for operations of the new RKO Pathe studios, the RKO foreign versions department, and the U. S. State Department's "News Magazine," now being produced in 24 languages at RKO Pathe. During World World War II, Ament served as chairman of the U. S. Newsreel Pool.

At Pathe for more than 15 years, Bonafield was appointed to his present position in January, 1945. A former newsreel editor, he now supervises the "This Is America" series and commercial films and produces "Sportscopes."

Butterfield Edits Reel

Butterfield joined Pathe News in 1942 as head script writer, engaged in specialized field work including both newsreel and National Broadcasting coverage of political conventions, was the author of Pathe's special wartime newsreels and in January, 1946, was named promotion director for all product and studios. Last January he was appointed newsreel editor.

Formerly a top writer for "This Is America," Reisman last February assumed the editorial manager post in which he supervises scripts and writers for all RKO Pathe short features, documentaries and commercial films.

RKO Pathe advertising and publicity are also under the supervision of Butterfield. William K. McClure is publicity manager, assisted by Curtis Cecil, Irene Cornell and Kathleen White.

PATHE BECKONS PRODUCTION EAST

Completely Modern, Spacious Production Facilities Win Favor of West's Film-Makers

By CHARLES L. FRANKE

IN New York City, at Park Avenue and 106th Street, there stands an industry monument to an industry objective. The monument: the Pathe Industries-owned, RKO Pathe-leased 11-story studio building which is fast becoming a center of East Coast production. The objective: that New York itself may again become a production center.

Frederic Ullman, Jr., president of RKO Pathe, views the seven-month-old "vertical" studio as a major step in the ultimate decentralization of Hollywood's "monopoly" of film-making, not its preeminence.

The studio building, formerly the Odd Fellows Temple, cost over $1,000,000 to convert into a modern, fully equipped film studio, in 18 months time. It is the country's first so-called "vertical" studio. It houses five sound stages, 12 film vaults, cutting rooms, dressing rooms, makeup parlors, commissary, chemical mixing room, machine shop, paint shop, carpenter shop, air-conditioning plant, executive and writers' offices, a preview theatre (also used as a dubbing room), a music-scoring room, property room, scenic designers' studio, screening rooms and laboratory, all equal to Hollywood's best.

Named "Television Center"

Although known as the RKO Pathe Studio, the building is actually (on Pathe Industries records) Television Center, being owned and operated by Television Center, Inc., Pathe Industries subsidiary. The major portion has been turned over on long-term lease to RKO Pathe, and most of the remainder is occupied by Pathe Laboratories, another Pathe Industries subsidiary, which prints and processes RKO Pathe films.

All activities of RKO Pathe are now centered in the new studio. Facilities are available there for turning out two RKO Pathe newsreels every week, one edition of "This Is America" every four weeks, one "Sportscope" every four weeks and eight "Flicker Flashbacks" a year. Additionally, RKO Pathe rents studio space, complete with all facilities, including cameramen and directors, to outside producers. Average daily costs for producing a feature is approximately $2,250, and typical charges run from $450 a day for the large studio to $9 an hour for the projection room.

First Hollywood producer to take advantage of the studio's facilities for major production is David O. Selznick, who brought a production company to New York last February for shooting of "Portrait of Jennie," with David Hempstead as producer; William Dieterle, director, and starring Jennifer Jones and Joseph Cotten. The "Jennie" company has been using Pathe as its headquarters while shooting on location in Manhattan and at Cape Cod. Production, however, has been suspended temporarily while parts of the script are being re-written. Meanwhile, on the main stage, a number of elaborate sets stand ready for shooting.

Inaugural production at RKO Pathe was "Mr. Bell," a three-reel commercial film biography of Alexander Graham Bell, sponsored by the American Telephone and Telegraph Co., which went before the cameras last December and now is being exhibited by A. T. and T. Meanwhile RKO Radio has utilized the studios for an English-language prologue for Maurice Chevalier's "Man About Town," and has adapted Pathe's sound equipment in recording the New York Philharmonic Orchestra for the forthcoming "Memory of Love." One feature, "Citizen Saint," produced by Clyde Elliot, has been completed at the studio.

Films which have been completed at the studio by RKO Pathe include "Where Profit Lies," for *Pathfinder Magazine*; "Long Range Loran," training film for the U. S. Navy; "Help Yourself," Cities Service Oil training film; "A Master Is Back," fact-film for U. S. Rubber Co.; "Energy for Americans," for the National Confection Association, and the forthcoming "This Is America" subject, titled "I Am an Alcoholic."

Busy Summer Schedule

Pending resumption of filming at the studio by the "Jennie" company, several other independent producers from Hollywood have been negotiating with RKO Pathe executives with a view to renting the studio when Selznick moves out, and indications are at present that the studio will be active most of the summer.

It is expected that Edward A. Golden will produce "Texas, Heaven and Brooklyn" at the Pathe studio, and at least part of Darryl Zanuck's forthcoming "Gentleman's Agreement" will be shot there. Eddie Bracken will use the site as his headquarters if plans for his "750 Smith" materialize. Four other films, "The Boy Cried Murder," "Close-Up," and two unspecified Selznick productions also will use the studio, it is said.

Thoroughly Modern

Industry observers have described the entire studio set-up as the most modern available. The principal stage is located on the second floor and was formerly the main auditorium. It measures 97 feet by 74 feet by 32 feet high, and is currently divided between an art gallery and a bar for "Portrait of Jennie." A glass-enclosed booth on the third floor overlooks the entire stage.

Two smaller sound stages are located on the fifth floor along with film phonograph rooms and cutting rooms. The sixth floor houses the main sound recording room with booths and channels for three 35mm recorders and one 16mm. On the seventh floor is the music stage and theatre-dubbing stage and managerial offices.

All studio floors are sound-proofed and air-conditioned. Walls are three feet thick. Some 20,000 square feet of rock wool were used to obtain good acoustics on the large stage alone.

Stars' dressing rooms are on the eighth floor along with the projection rooms and additional editing equipment. Make-up rooms are off the main stage.

In the basement of the building is the cafeteria-commissary. On the first floor is the Pathe Industries-operated laboratory, in-

(*Continued on page* 12)

New RKO Pathe Studio Facilities



Story Conference. L. to R.: Robert Donahue, Sr.; Donahue, Jr., Alfred Butterfield, Walton C. Ament, Jack LeVien.



New laboratory building, adjoining studio, now nearing completion.



Make-Up. Fred Ryle, make-up man, readies actress for the cameras.



PATHE'S new "vertical" studio building, Park Avenue at 106th Street, New York.



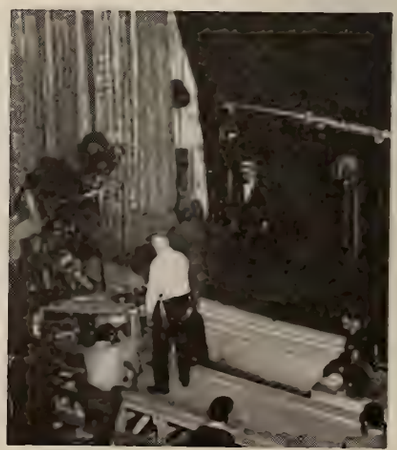
Scoring Stage and Dubbing Room, showing modern facilities.



Stage. Production company at work on "Mr. Bell," first film produced at new RKO Pathe Studios.



Commercial Production. Stage scene for Cities Service short.



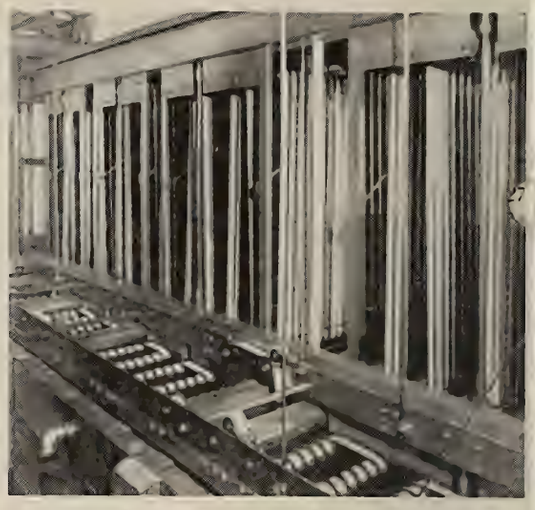
Special Recording. Maurice Chevalier on RKO Pathe stage.


RKO PATHE INC.
625 MADISON AVE.
STUDIO: PARK AVENUE AT 106TH STREET
EYES ON BRAZIL
DEEP END
BLACK DUCKS
BATTLING BAYS
FLICKER FLASHBACK
EAGLE HOPPERS
WOMANS PARADISE
HUNTING HOUNDS
HARNESS RACERS
19299 DUPE
MEXICAN PLAYLAND
GAUCHO SPORTS
GUN PLAY
FIELD TRIAL CHAMPION
FLYING FEATHERS
KENTUCKY RACKETEERS
JUNGLE JAUNTS
BOWLING FEVER
JOE KIRKWOOD
BIG LEAGUERS
SPORTSCOPE
MEN OF MUSCLE
HAIL NOTRE DAME
BLUE GRASS
SPORTSCOPE
SPORTSCOPE
FIVE STAR BOWLERS
GOLF LIMITS
ICE SKIPPERS
DEVIL DRIVERS
BOYS CAMP
SPORTSCOPE
WILD TURKEY
SKATING LADY
NORTH AFRICAN ALBUM
WEST POINT WINNERS
COURT CRAFT
COLORADO RAINBOWS
AERIAL FLYERS
CRAIG WOOD
ICE CUTTERS
HATS
1935-1939 CUTS
HOW GOES CHILE
CONQUER BY THE CLOCK
SOLDIERS OF THE SEA
TELEVISION
COMMERCIAL PROD.
CITY OF COURAGE
NAMPA STORY
FREEDOM AND FAMINE
GOLD
COMMERCIAL PROD
GOODYEAR TRAILERS
MR. BELL REEL #1
RCA NEWS
USO TRAILERS
EYES OF ADVERTISING
BUICK NEWS - REEL #
SAFETY BEGINS AT HOME
ANTHRACITE
SUBMARINE
TWO MILLION ROOMS
BATTLE NEWS
NEWS
PATHE AT WORK
COMMERCIAL PROD.
MR. BELL REEL #1
WILL TO LIVE
MAGIC OF COAL
WHERE PROFIT LIES
ACCENT ON USE
AGE OF FLIGHT
WOMEN AT ARMS
BEAUTY FOR SALE
THIS IS AMERICA
ANNAPOLIS
NAVY
SAN FRANC
NEW AMER
LT. SMITH
GERMANY
MAIN STREET
MEDICINE

Inviting Production to New York



EXECUTIVE Conference. L. to R.: Charles Underhill, commercial production manager; Frederic Ullman, Jr., RKO Pathe president; Walton Ament, vice-president and general manager; Jay Bonafield, vice-president in charge of production; Philip Nichols, commercial sales manager.



Developing Room. Capable of handling negatives at the rate of 250 feet a minute.



Drying Room. Drying cabinets at left.



Laboratory Cutting Room. Films are edited and assembled here before shipping.



Assistant Editor William Sofia checking sound track against picture.



Sound Engineer Murray Rosenblum prepares for mixing job.



Studio Camera Shop. Photographer George Schmidt in equipment storage room.



Studio Commissary. Catering to the inner man between shooting schedules.

Produced at the new RKO PATHE STUDIOS



THIS IS AMERICA

RKO PATHE NEWS

RKO PATHE SPORTSCOPE

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Distributed by RKO Radio Pictures

Pathe Labs

(*Continued from page* 1)

Diesel Electric Co. adjacent to Pathe Industries' 11-story vertical studio, the major portion of which has been leased to RKO Pathe. Nick Tronolone, vice-president of Pathe Laboratories, is in charge of the new development for which plans and specifications were prepared by Mayer and Whittlesey-M. Milton Glass, architects. All the floors of the new structure will be connected to the corresponding levels of the Park Avenue studio building so that communication between all departments and integrated operation of all buildings, including the two-story adjoining machine and scenery shop, will be achieved.

1,500,000 Feet a Day

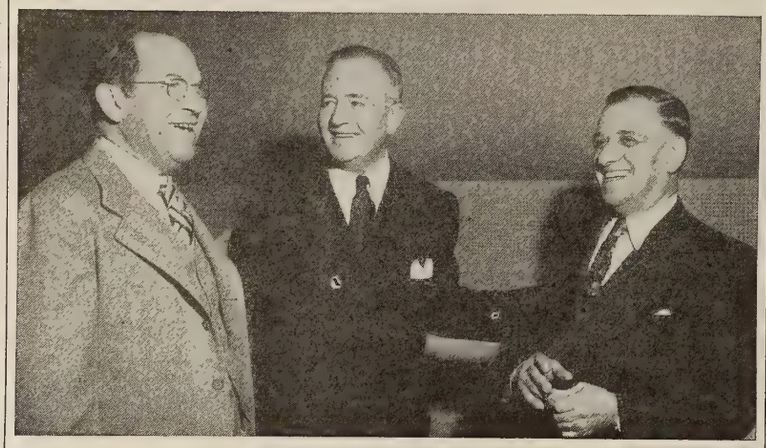
First floor of the new building will house developing, drying and finishing departments geared to handle 1,500,000 feet of film a day, shipping facilities and 10 film vaults. Printing, cleaning, negative assembly, conforming and timing departments for both black-and-white and color films will occupy the second floor along with 12 additional vaults. Fifty-seven more vaults on the third floor will considerably relieve present storage inadequacies in the East. Fourth floor will house three screening rooms, and the cellar will be used for chemical storage and mixing rooms and mechanical equipment for the developing and drying departments. The entire building will be of fireproof construction.

Pathe Industries now has long-term, exclusive printing contracts with Universal and RKO Pathe, and handles as well printing and processing of subsidiary Pathe Industries companies: Eagle-Lion, Producers Releasing Corp., and the 16mm distribution organization, Pictorial Films. All utilize the major portion of the company's present capacity, which will be vastly expanded with the opening of the new laboratory building.

Pathe Industries, which evolved from the June 26, 1944, merger of Pathe Laboratories, Inc., of New Jersey, and Pathe Laboratories, Inc., of California, operates under the leadership of Robert W. Purcell, chairman of the board, and Kenneth M. Young, president, with personal guidance falling to Tronolone, a veteran of approximately 40 years in the industry. Principal stockholder is Robert R. Young, chairman of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway.

The company's history dates back to 1939 when Pathe Film Corp. transferred all of its assets, with the exception of 3,500 shares of DuPont stock, to the then founded Pathe Laboratories' New Jersey corporation. The California corporation was formed the same year for the purpose of continuing a laboratory business in Hollywood, having taken over active operation of the facilities of International Cinema, Inc. Then came the 1944 merger, and on June 26, 1946, a new Pathe Laboratories, Inc., was organized under the laws of the State of New York, to provide a corporate vehicle for recording the laboratory activities of Pathe Industries, Inc. Another subsidiary company is the V. D. Anderson Co., which engages in the manufacture of machinery used for the extraction of oils and fats from animal and vegetable matter.

Pathe Industries Officials



Left to Right: Louis Phillips, Pathe Industries counsel; Kenneth Young, president; Nick Tronolone, vice-president, Pathe Laboratories.

Other Company Officers

Other Pathe Industries officers: J. J. Anzalone, vice-president; C. Warren Sharpe, treasurer; Thurber H. Pierce, controller; Mrs. M. M. Malone, secretary. Board of directors includes: Robert S. Benjamin, William R. Daley, Henry J. Guild, Robert McKinney, William J. Mericka, Raymond J. Morfa, Robert W. Purcell and Kenneth M. Young.

Pathe History

Pathe Buildings' Cost Exceeds $3,500,000

Pathe Industries' 11-story studio building at 106th Street and Park Ave., here, and its adjacent laboratory building, which is now under construction represent a total investment of over $3,500,000 by the company in the future of East Coast film production.

EMERSON YORKE STUDIO
35 WEST 45th STREET • NEW YORK CITY 19

"TIME OUT!"
with
June Lockhart John Harvey
Donald Cook Dorothy Peterson

A Featurette for
National Tuberculosis Association

Produced at
RKO-PATHE STUDIO, NEW YORK
Release Date — June 1, 1947

* * * *

Currently producing a series of informative-entertainment shorts for Pictorial Films, Inc.—subsidiary of Pathe Industries, Inc.

* * * *

RKO-PATHE STUDIO
AND
PATHE NEWS
USE OUR EQUIPMENT
BECAUSE IT IS PRECISE
AND
DEPENDABLE
★
JOHN M. WALL, INC.
MANUFACTURERS OF
SINGLE SYSTEM SOUND CAMERAS
AND PRINTERS
107 NORTH FRANKLIN STREET
SYRACUSE 4, N. Y.



MOTION PICTURE BRANCHES

PATHE LABORATORIES

Leading in the field of developing and printing of motion picture film for major studios.

EAGLE LION FILMS

Producing and Releasing motion pictures of distinction made in the U. S. A.; releasing J. Arthur Rank Organization pictures in the U. S., Central and South America.

PICTORIAL FILMS

The fast growing 16 mm organization . . . supplying interesting subjects in every category.

TELEVISION CENTER, INC.
housing RKO Pathe's newest studios, the largest indoor motion picture studios in the East



Pathe Beckons

(*Continued from page* 5)

cluding cutting and timing rooms. A paint shop and garage adjoins the laboratory.

As many as three different production units can work simultaneously in the studio. Every foot of space is used to the best advantage. To aid rapid scene shifting on and off the main stage, 20-foot-high metal doors — a film studio innovation — were devised. Through the doors sets are wheeled on "dollies."



Douglas Travers

The stupendous job of organizing and coordinating the Park Avenue studio facilities fall to Harold Lewis, RKO Pathe studio manager since June, 1946. Previously, Lewis was a production manager on the Pathe lot in Culver City. He has held similar posts with Grand National Films and Monogram.

Douglas Travers is production manager. He has been with RKO Pathe only two and a half years but his association with RKO goes back to that organization's first day. A former theatreman, he was assistant head film editor with RKO in Hollywood when that company made "Cimarron." His most recent film on the Hollywood lot was "Murder My Sweet."

Assisting Lewis is Alfred Eglatz who makes sure everything from water faucets to stage sets are in order and combats studio 'headaches." William Saulter is studio art director, Martin Nallan heads the carpenter shop, Eddie Gunn is chief electrician, Walter Maguire is in charge of the property department, John Haupt is head grip, and Fred Hemme is chief scenic artist. Heading the sound department on the ninth floor where Pathe's new sound equipment is centered is Frank Woolley. Raoul De Leon manages RKO's foreign versions department.



Phil Reisman, Jr.

More than 2,000,000 feet of newsreel stock-shot films have been moved into the news vaults in the Park Avenue studio. Film library headquarters, however, remain at Pathe's Madison Avenue building where Mrs. Virginia Dillard serves as chief librarian. Other film storage facilities are used at Bound Brook, N. J., and at the Museum of Modern Art's film library on Long Island.

Commercial films are made at the new studio by the same staff that produces RKO Pathe News, "This Is America," "Sportscopes" and other theatrical product.

"It is our conviction that any production below the level of the best theatrical quality must be unacceptable from any audience standpoint," says Phillips B. Nichols, sales manager for RKO Pathe's commercial department.

Following closely upon the opening of the Park Avenue studios, Pathe Laboratories began construction of a four-story building adjacent to the studios to accommodate a modern film laboratory which will provide the finest facilities for the developing, printing and storage of motion picture film in the East. It is now about 50 per cent completed.

Develop Test Film For Sound Heads

The Society of Motion Picture Engineers and the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences have developed a new 35 mm. visual test film to be used by theatre projectionists, service companies and theatre equipment distributors for checking the performance of 35mm. sound heads.

"When installing new projectors and screens or performing maintenance operations on existing equipment, service men and projectionists have been forced to work without adequate test standards for checking picture head performance," the SMPE said.

U. S., British Films Tops in Singapore

American and British films have an almost exclusive hold on the keenly-competitive Singapore market where business is settling down to its pre-war level, it is reported here by Ong Chin Kun, director, and Paul Domingo, manager of the Malaya Film Service, Monogram distributors in Malaya. Both are making a round-the-world tour.

They report additionally that construction of several large theatres is planned for Singapore.

New License System Adopted in San Juan

By E. SANCHEZ ORTIZ

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, May 25 (By Airmail).—The San Juan Board of Commissioners has adopted a new system of municipal licenses covering all trades and industries, including films, which places a reduced $2 tax on the first $20,000 of annual volume of business. The tax on the first $20,000 has been $2.50.

The new legislation, effective July 1, however, increases the rate of taxation on municipal licenses commensurate with the increase in the annual volume of business. For each additional $1,000 earned annually in excess of the first $20,000, and up to $50,000, the tax is to be $2.25, compared with $1.50, and for each additional $1,000 of business in excess of the first $50,000 and up to $100,000 earned annually, the tax is to be $2.50 per $1,000, compared with $1.50.

The tax per $1,000 in excess of $100,000 will be $3, compared with the present 25 cents.

R. L. Cleveland to RCA

CAMDEN, May 28.—The appointment of R. L. Cleveland as district representative for RCA 16mm. motion picture equipment sales in the Western region, has been announced by O. V. Swisher manager of the RCA 16mm. equipment section.

Altec Expands in Ky.

LOUISVILLE, May 28.—Altec Service Corp's branch here has added a third territory to the two already in existence. Kenny Kaiser, recently in the Texas area, hsa been transferred here to assist Frank Riffle and Ben Shroeder.

Prince to Hollywood

Don Prince, RKO Radio foreign publicity director, left New York for Hollywood to reorganize the studio's foreign publicity department.

A LETTER TO EXECUTIVES PLANNING ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION

Would you be interested in a form of electric contract evolved by us that

(1) Avoids All Forms of Cost-Plus Work
(2) Limits Profits to 5%
(3) Guarantees the Outside Price
(4) Allows 100% Credit on All Savings

The contractor must pass an unequivocal test as to his EFFICIENCY and INTEGRITY.

His EFFICIENCY to be judged by experience, organization and record of work performed.

His INTEGRITY to be judged by reference to banks and clientele.

The form of contract, as well as our record and references, based on FIFTY-TWO YEARS' EXPERIENCE, sent on request.

LORD ELECTRIC COMPANY, Inc.
NEW YORK - BOSTON - PITTSBURGH
Main Office: 10 Rockefeller Plaza - Tel.: CIrcle 6-8000

All the Automatic Sprinkler Equipment in the Construction of the new RKO Pathe Studio and Laboratory installed by

J. L. MURPHY Inc.

Plumbing
Heating
Automatic Sprinkler
Air Conditioning
General Piping

We are glad to serve

ERWIN S. WOLFSON, DEISEL CONSTRUCTION CO., Inc.

340 East 44th Street
New York 17, New York

Theatrical - Historical
Costumes - Uniforms
for
Motion Picture and Stage Productions

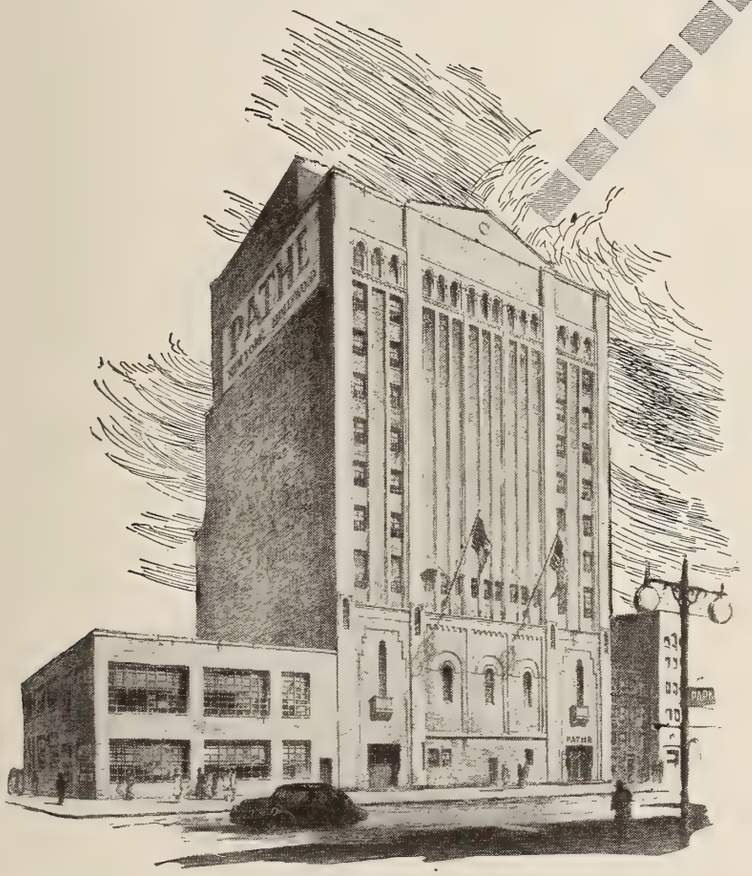
Eaves Costume Co.
Incorporated

We rent costumes of every description for every occasion.

EAVES BUILDING
151-153 WEST 46TH STREET
NEAR BROADWAY
NEW YORK CITY

Something to Crow about!





THE PATHE ROOSTER has good reasons for crowing. He has spotlighted the news of the world since the cradle days of movies. He has helped announce the pageants of history . . . has participated in the growth and technical standards of sound films.

All of the sound recording equipment in RKO Pathe's progressive New York studio bears the RCA trademark. This new RCA installation represents the most advanced sound engineering...incorporates many exclusive RCA developments in sound film recording.

We are proud of our association with RKO Pathe, which extends over many years of picture making . . . proud too that we have been able to contribute materially to the outstanding quality of RKO Pathe releases.

Congratulations, RKO Pathe! May your famous mascot have ever-increasing cause to crow!

SOUND RCA SYSTEM

Congress May Vote $84,000 Film Rooms

WASHINGTON, May 28.—Senators and Congressmen may finally get film screening rooms for their legislative hearings under the reorganization act, if Congress authorizes and appropriates $84,000 for the remodeling of House and Senate caucus rooms.

Communist Probe

(*Continued from page* 1)

White House pressure." It did not name any particular President.

In its report, unanimously approved by the full House committee, the sub-committee also attacked the Screen Writers Guild, the Talent Guild and the National Labor Relations Board. The report said that the situation presents a problem which "can only be corrected by complete exposure on the part of the committee and prompt action by studio heads." In addition to urging the full committee's intensified investigation, the sub-committee recommended also that the committee subpoena to Washington alleged Communist actors, writers, directors and producers, and confront them in public session with the testimony and evidence against them; that an investigation be instituted to determine the responsibility and extent of the influence of Government agencies or officials in producing "flagrant Communist propaganda films."

The sub-committee said that "up until the present," there has been no inclination on the part of the industry itself to cooperate with the committee in ferreting out these Communist influences," adding that now, however, "responsible people in the industry seem to be aware that they have been misled and misused by the Communists and are anxious to rectify this situation." The report praised the cooperation given by the industry during its recent investigation on the Coast.

Brief investigation into the activities of film composer Hans Eisler is slated to start here on June 16.

Meanwhile, Rep. Richard M. Nixon, a committee member now on the Coast, disclosed that 30 Hollywood producers, directors, writers and actors will be called to testify in Washington next month. Nixon, who is there in his capacity as chairman of the House committee on education and labor to survey limitations and conditions imposed by the American Federation of Musicians and its president, James C. Petrillo, declined to name those who will be subpoenaed.

He added, however, that film, radio, record and television executives, have indicated a "fear of reprisals" from Petrillo in their general reluctance to supply information.

Johnston Urges House Group To Conduct 'Fair' Probe

HOLLYWOOD, May 28.—In a statement issued here tonight, Eric Johnston, MPA president, urged the House Un-American Activities committee to conduct "a fair, dignified and objective investigation," and added that to this, "we pledge our wholehearted cooperation."

He said that Hollywood producers, "who have come up the hard way," are aware of the dangers in Communist efforts to capture the motion picture screen. This is why such methods have not been successful, he said.

"Possessed"

(*Continued from page* 1)

Raymond Massey after his wife, who Miss Crawford had attended as a trained nurse, commits suicide. The theory is this will arouse Heflin and finally return him to Miss Crawford.

But this does not work out. Heflin, pretty much of a heel anyway, falls for Massey's young daughter, played by Geraldine Brooks. Miss Crawford, entering the area of desperation under tortured mental processes which are spelling her disintegration by this time, kills Heflin. Massey, prepared to forgive, goes to her hospital bedside to aid in the recovery which is indicated. The outcome of the trial which Miss Crawford must face is left to the determination of the onlooker.

There are no punches pulled. This is an unrelieved narration of a neurotic and highly emotional woman in whom the divisional line between sanity and insanity is more phantom than real. What she wants most—Heflin—slips out of her grasp, something begins to snap and she is carried over that line. Her struggle against the enveloping mental sickness moves her from climax to climax, some real and some imagined, until she arrives at the breaking point. The shadings of such a part were many and never easy if conviction in performance were to be reached. Miss Crawford meets the full requirement with brilliance and depth, and emerges with audience sympathy arrayed completely on her side.

The supporting cast is to be commended, too. Heflin, Massey, Miss Brooks and Ridges are excellent. Curtis Bernhardt's direction is of the superior brand, under Jerry Wald's capable producership. Based on a Rita Weiman story, the script by Silvia Richards and Ranald MacDougall is both adult and skillful.

Running time, 108 minutes. Adult audience classification. For July release.

RED KANN

"Living in a Big Way"

(M-G-M)

GENE KELLY'S extraordinary dancing talent is here given such showcasing as few specialized accomplishments have ever received, with the actor's three originally-conceived and magnificently-executed stepping numbers accounting for the principal impact of an otherwise ordinary production. Although Marie McDonald, Charles Winninger, Spring Byington, Phyllis Thaxter and Clinton Sundberg all go along helpfully in a story based on a homecoming marine's experiences with his reluctant socialite wife and the veterans' housing problem, the picture depends in the main upon Kelly's performance and personality for box-office results.

Labelled a Gregory La Cava Production, and directed by him from his own story and a screenplay by himself and Irving Ravetch, and produced by Pandro S. Berman, the picture concerns Kelly's return from three years at war to find his unkissed bride determined to divorce him. Only her grandmother, played with charm by Jean Adair, takes his side in matters, and together they launch a small-scale veterans' housing program which brings his unwilling bride, Miss McDonald, into contact with other veterans' wives, ultimately resulting in her changing her views about divorce.

In the story sections, handled primarily for laughs, considerable incidental humor is competently dealt with, but Kelly's dance numbers, which run for several minutes each, bear the major burden of the entertainment. His fans may be depended on to revel in his performance; others may consider the picture overlong.

Running time, 103 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Fabian-UA Bid

(*Continued from page* 1)

the principals are held frequently but despite this no material change in the negotiations has occurred since their inception, it was stated.

In the event any meeting of the minds is reached here with representatives of Miss Pickford and Chaplin, conclusion of a deal still would have to await the latters' approvals, it is pointed out. Both have returned to the Coast from New York. When last heard from, one principal in the negotiations said, Chaplin was amenable to a deal but Miss Pickford was not inclined to sell except under conditions which would be difficult to meet, in the opinion of negotiators.

$125,000 Theatre Suit

SEATTLE, May 28.—A $125,000 suit for alleged breach of contract has been filed here against stockholders of the Island Theatre, Vashon Island, which opened tonight. Pending outcome of the suit, which was filed by G. L. Geisentanner, original promoter of the $60,000 theatre, the house will be operated by Morris Dunsford, one of the stockholders.

Hirliman

(*Continued from page* 1)

holds all rights to 250 films which he had acquired for re-issue purposes.

He said the two slated for New York, one concerning the local Police Department and the other a remake of "Third Alarm," dealing with the Fire Department, are to be produced at Filmcraft Studios, in the Bronx. Production is likely to begin in October, he said.

Hirliman will leave here at the weekend for Montreal where he plans to arrange for studio facilities there. Production will start in Canada on Aug. 1, he said.

Wage Deadlock

(*Continued from page* 1)

next week to consider the latest development. Under provisions of the contract, either side may call for arbitration of a dispute.

The company has offered an 11 per cent wage increase and had refused to go beyond that figure. The union, which began negotiations with a 20 per cent request, is now demanding about 16 per cent.

Believes Para.

(*Continued from page* 1)

the complexity of the corporate structure in which some of them are involved.

Fortune reports that Paramount's current product backlog consists of 24 pictures, valued at a cost of about $47,000,000. The backlog represents millions in production cost savings to the company on the basis of present increased costs over actual costs of pictures made some time ago. H[illegible] Ginsberg, vice-president and production chief, is credited for the backlog.

Paramount's production schedule for 1947 will consist of 25 features budgeted at $40,000,000, according to *Fortune*. In 1937, the company made 55 features for $30,000,000, the article states.

The article pays marked tribute to Barney Balaban, Paramount president, who led the company from bankruptcy to an all-time industry high for earnings in his first 10 years at the helm. Stanton Griffis, former chairman of the Paramount executive committee, now U. S. Ambassador to Poland, also is applauded for his financial service to the company during its difficult recovery years.

Other home office executives who come in for commendation include: Adolph Zukor, founder and chairman of the board; Leonard Goldenson, vice-president in charge of theatre operations, who is connected in the article with reports that he is the heir-apparent to the Paramount presidency; Charles M. Reagan, distribution vice-president; Curtis Mitchell, advertising-publicity director; Paul Raibourn, vice-president and head of Paramount's television interests, and George Weltner, president of Paramount International.

Monogram Income

(*Continued from page* 1)

the same period one year ago. Profits for the 1947 period before Federal taxes was $414,042, against $51,176 a year ago.

In the report, Broidy drew attention to the activities of Monogram's recently-formed subsidiary, Allied Artists Productions, organized to handle high-budget pictures. This company has five pictures completed, the first of which, "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," has just had its premiere at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Los Angeles, and is booked for a June opening at the Rivoli, New York.

The second Allied Artists' release will be "Black Gold," in Cinecolor, followed by "The Gangster," "Song of My Heart" and "The Hunted."

Barron Is Trustee

(*Continued from page* 1)

area committee of the Motion Picture Foundation.

At a meeting today, membership on the committee was completed. It now consists of Payette, Barron, A. J. DeFiore, Wilmington; William Crockett, Virginia Beach; Morton Thalhimer, Richmond; Lawrence Schanberger and Lauritz Carman, Baltimore; Benjamin Pitts, Fredericksburg; Hunter Perry, Charlottesville; Elmore Heins, Roanoke; Mayor Edward Evans of Milford; Sam Galanty, Sidney Lust, Rudolph Berger, Morton Gerber, Tom Reed and A. Julian Brylawski of Washington.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
May 3	FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson D—69 mins.	(May Releases) HIGH BARBAREE Van Johnson June Allyson D—91 min. (Rev. 3/13/47)	LAND OF THE LAWLESS J. Mack Brown O—59 min. (671) (Rev. 5/12/47) (Reissue) QUEEN OF THE YUKON Charles Bickford	BLAZE OF NOON Anne Baxter William Holden D—90 mins. (Rev. 3/4/47)	(Eagle-Lion) RED STALLION Robert Paige Ted Donaldson BORDER FEUD Al La Rue O—55 min.		(Block 5) HONEYMOON Shirley Temple Franchot Tone C—74 mins. (721) (Rev. 4/16/47)	(May Releases) THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR Rex Harrison Gene Tierney D—104 min. (7157) (Rev. 5/16/47)	(Enterprise) RAMROD Joel McCrea Veronica Lake O—94 mins. (Rev. 2/21/47) (Comet) ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (Color) Richard Martin D—65 mins. (Rev. 5/1/47)		LOVE AND LEARN Jack Carson Robert Hutton C—85 min. (620) (Rev. 3/25/47)
May 10	(May Releases) LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) D—77 mins. GUNFIGHTERS (Color)	UNDERCOVER MAISIE Ann Sothern Barry Nelson C—90 min. (Rev. 3/4/47) (Reprint)	HARD BOILED MAHONEY Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall C—63 mins. (616) (Rev. 4/10/47)	BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—60 min. (Rev. 2/18/47)	(Eagle-Lion) REPEAT PERFORMANCE Joan Leslie Louis Hayward	OREGON TRAIL SCOUTS Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min. (Rev. 5/26/47) THAT'S MY GAL (Color) Lynne Roberts Donald Barry	TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS Johnny Weismuller O—72 mins. (723) (Rev. 3/20/47)	HOMESTRETCH Cornel Wilde Maureen O'Hara D—96 min. (713) (Rev. 4/18/47)	(Hunt Stromberg) DISHONORED LADY Hedy Lamarr (Rev. 4/23/47)	(May Releases) TIME OUT OF MIND Phyllis Calvert Robert Hutton Ella Raines D—88 mins. (Rev. 3/7/47)	
May 17	BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY Ron Randell D—70 mins.	GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)	SARGE GOES TO COLLEGE Alan Hale, Jr. D—63 min. (618) (Rev. 5/12/47)	CALCUTTA Alan Ladd Wm. Bendix D—83 min. (Rev. 4/16/47)	TOO MANY WINNERS Hugh Beaumont (Reissue) THE CORSICAN BROTHERS Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. (Reissue) INTERNATIONAL LADY George Brent	WINTER WONDERLAND Lynne Roberts Charles Drake D—71 min. (614) (Rev. 5/26/47)	BORN TO KILL Lawrence Tierney D—92 mins. (722) (Rev. 4/21/47)	JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG Richard Travis Micheline Cheirel D—64 min. (716) (Rev. 4/10/47)	(Hopalong Cassidy) DANGEROUS VENTURE William Boyd O—59 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)	(Reissue) MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION Irene Dunne Robert Taylor D—101 min. (2795)	THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS Humphrey Bogart Barbara Stanwyck D—100 min. (621) (Rev 4/1/47)
May 24	LAW OF THE CANYON Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O	THE YEARLING Gregory Peck Jane Wyman D—134 min. (717) (Rev. 11/27/46)	THE LAW COMES TO GUNSIGHT Johnny Mack Brown O—(672)		KILLER AT LARGE Robert Lowery O—63 min.		A LIKELY STORY Barbara Hale Bill Williams C—88 mins. (724) (Rev. 4/21/47)		(Sam Coslow) COPACABANA Groucho Marx Carmen Miranda M—92 mins. (Rev. 5/22/47)	(Reissue) 100 MEN AND A GIRL Deanna Durbin Leopold Stokowski D—84 min. (2796)	
May 31	THE MILLERSON CASE Warner Baxter PRAIRIE RAIDERS Charles Starrett		SONG OF THE WASTELAND Jimmy Wakely O		STEPCHILD Brenda Joyce D—70 min.	THAT'S MY MAN Don Ameche Catherine McLeod D—104 min. (Rev. 4/7/47)	BANJO Sharyn Moffett Una O'Connor D—67 mins. (725) (Rev. 4/21/47)				
June 1	THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. George Brent Joan Blondell D—87 min.	(June Releases) LIVING IN A BIG WAY Gene Kelly Marie McDonald D			PHILO VANCE RETURNS William Wright D—64 min. (Rev. 4/30/47)	SADDLE PALS Gene Autry O (Rev. 5/22/47)	(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)	(June Releases) MOSS ROSE Peggy Cummins Victor Mature D—82 min. (717) (Rev. 5/22/47) MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET Maureen O'Hara John Payne D—96 min. (718) (Rev. 5/2/47)		(June Releases) ODD MAN OUT James Mason Robert Newton D—113 min. (Rev. 2/26/47)	CHEYENNE Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman O—100 mins. (622) (Rev. 4/23/47)
June 8		DARK DELUSION James Craig Lucille Bremer D—90 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)	HIGH CONQUEST Anna Lee Warren Douglas D—83 mins. (Rev. 3/13/47)	DANGER STREET Jane Withers D—66 min. (4623) (Rev. 2/27/47)		WEB OF DANGER Adele Mara D	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)			THE WEB Edward O'Brien Ella Raines William Bendix D—91 min. (Rev. 5/22/47)	
June 15	LITTLE MISS BROADWAY Jean Porter M—69 min.			THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—80 min. (4614) (Rev. 4/28/47)	HEARTACHES Sheila Ryan PIONEER JUSTICE Al La Rue	NORTHWEST OUTPOST Nelson Eddy Ilona Massey D—91 min. (Rev. 5/12/47)	DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47)			THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay	
June 22	SPORT OF KINGS Paul Campbell D—68 min. SWING THE WESTERN WAY Jack Leonard O						DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)				
June 29	STRANGER FROM PONCA CITY Smiley Burnette O	(July Releases) CYNTHIA Elizabeth Taylor Mary Astor D—98 min. (Rev. 5/20/47)	KILROY WAS HERE Jackie Cooper Jackie Coogan D—(621)	THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Color) Betty Hutton John Lund C—96 min. (4615) (Rev. 5/26/47)			THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)				THE UNFAITHFUL Ann Sheridan Lew Ayres D—109 min. (623) (Rev. 5/27/47)
July 6	KEEPER OF THE BEES Michael Duane Gloria Henry D	FIESTA (Color) Esther Williams									

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.]*





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BY his interpretive use of equipment —his skill in anticipating motion— the microphone boom man takes the words "right out of the mouth" of actor or actress . . . correlates sound with action so that clarity and proper perspective are always maintained.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MR. JOYCE O'HARA,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. 61. NO. 106 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1947 TEN CENTS

Congressmen Assure Owners Of Tax Relief

Action Not Likely at This Session, However

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, June 1.—Representatives of the American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America asked the House Ways and Means Committee, at sessions here, to cut admission taxes, and were assured of strong Committee support.

"The tax is too high and must come down," Committee chairman Knutson told the exhibitors at the hearing. "We want to give you folks relief," he added. Other Committee members joined the chairman in assuring the exhibitors of support in their plea.

Action is not likely at this session of Congress, however. Knutson is on record as believing that only two

(*Continued on page 7*)

Studio Strike a Dead Issue: Nebenzal

The only evidence of Hollywood's labor rows is in the occasional appearances of two or three pickets at studio gates and so far as picture-making is concerned the long strike has of late presented no interference whatsoever, Seymour Nebenzal, independent producer releasing through United Artists, said here at the weekend. Striking carpenters and painters have been

(*Continued on page 7*)

Death Takes Three From Films, Radio

Ruth Gillis, 34, of Brooklyn, a secretary in the M-G-M home office, was among the 41 passengers killed in the United Airlines plane disaster at LaGuardia Field, here, last Thursday. She is survived by a brother, Sylvester Gillis.

Norman MacKay, manager of radio station WDAY in Miami, was among the 53 passengers killed in the Eastern Airlines plane crash in Maryland on Friday.

Adrienne Ames, 39, screen actress and radio commentator, died on Saturday at her home here after a long illness.

Export Assn. Clear of All Indebtedness

Motion Picture Export Association has cleared itself of all indebtedness incurred for initial operating expenses with the payment of $250,000 to the eight U. S. distributor participants in the foreign trade cartel.

While the eight companies actually control MPEA, the organization is a separate entity and its original financing was provided through loans from each company.

MPEA is not alone operating financially on a self-sustaining basis, but progress to date indicates an early disbursement of revenue from abroad among distributors, according to an official close to the operation. The association's present operating funds are said to be at a substantial level.

MPEA was organized to combat the numerous restrictions placed against U. S. product in 13 countries. Paying off particularly at this point are Holland and Czechoslovakia.

Meanwhile, some dissatisfaction with the results of MPEA's functioning has been expressed by some independent member producers. Seymour Neben-

(*Continued on page 7*)

O'Brien Condemns British Ad Attack

Condemnation of the recent advertising campaign in London by some British film companies against American pictures was voiced here at the weekend by Tom O'Brien, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes, at a Motion Picture Association luncheon in his honor at the Harvard Club.

"I condemn any commercial firm or film company which uses our economic

(*Continued on page 7*)

WB Sales Meetings Open Here Tursday

Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager of Warner Brothers, will preside at a meeting of district managers and home office executives to be held here Thursday and Friday.

Home office officials who will also take part include Samuel Schneider, Mort Blumenstock, Roy Haines, Jules Lapidus, Norman Ayers, Norman H. Moray, I. F. Dolid, Bernard R. Goodman, Ed Hinchy, William W. Brumberg and others.

BOT Favors Keeping The Renters Quota

London, June 1.—British Board of Trade officials will recommend retention of the renters quota in the forthcoming quota act, despite the British Film Producers Association's strong representations reinforced with an advertising campaign, according to reliable unofficial sources. BOT officials are said to be impressed by Cinematograph Exhibitor Association arguments that abolition of the renters quota would place independent exhibitors at the mercy of British producer-distributor-exhibitor combines. The act is expected to embody a variable quota.

Seven Films Made By German Industry

WASHINGTON, June 1. — Three German-produced films have been made so far in the British zone, the War Department reports, although licenses have been issued for the production of five. Four have been made to date in the Soviet zone, and none in the United States or French zones.

British film policy in Germany is to give as much scope as possible to German producers, in line with their belief that the best source of supply for German theatres is films produced by the Germans themselves.

Last Fox Midwest Meeting Today

KANSAS CITY, June 1.—Meetings of the several districts in the Fox Midwest circuit are being held, with managers planning for the final two-week period—"Elmer Rhoden Weeks"—of the annual Charles Skouras drive. Attending the meetings are: E. C. Rhoden, head of Fox Midwest; Lon Cox, film buyer and assistant to Rhoden; Charles E. Shafer, treasurer; Senn Lawler, publicity, and Howard Hilton of Rhoden's staff.

Mexicans Complain Of Encroachments

MEXICO CITY, June 1.—Advocates of the law proposed recently to the Government which demands 26 weeks exhibition time a year in all theatres in Mexico for Mexican pictures have become more active for the enactment of that statute since Trans-Lux's new theatre here, the Prado, contracted for four Warner films for 26 weeks playing time.

Tom Connors Retires From 20th-Fox Post

Keeps Advisory Status; Smith, Gehring Upped

Tom J. Connors relinquished his post as vice-president in charge of sales of 20th Century-Fox on Thursday. Connors' five-year contract with the company was nearing its expiration, and the company's announcement said that he "has elected to retire" but "will remain with the corporation in an advisory capacity."



Tom J. Connors

The company announced on Friday that Andrew W. Smith, Jr., Eastern sales manager, had been appointed general sales manager succeeding Connors, and that William

(*Continued on page 7*)

Film Officials to Attend Kirsch Fete

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century Fox; Joseph Bernhard, president of Film Classics; Ben Kalmenson, distribution vice-president of Warners; Abram F. Myers, national chairman of Allied States, and Col.

(*Continued on page 7*)

Rank Will Not Buy More US Companies

HOLLYWOOD, June 1.—Asserting that he has no plans for producing in Hollywood "in mind," J. Arthur Rank, at a press interview here upon his arrival Thursday, denied categorically

(*Continued on page 7*)

5 Reviews Today

"The Vigilantes Return" and "The Queen's Necklace" are on page 3; "Take My Life," "The Nuremberg Trials" and "The Miracle of Monte Cassino," page 6.

Personal Mention

STANLEY H. CRAIG, Paramount's general manager for New Zealand, and WILLIAM HURWORTH, JR., asssistant manager in Sydney, Australia, accompanied by MRS. CRAIG, are in Hollywood from New York, en route home.

•

A. W. SCHWALBERG, Eagle-Lion sales head, and MAX E. YOUNGSTEIN, advertising-publicity-exploitation director, visited Washington, Philadelphia and Baltimore from New York over the weekend.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern division sales manager, and SAM LEFKOWITZ, Eastern district manager, will leave here tonight for Boston and will return Wednesday.

•

MAX MILDER, Warner managing director in Great Britain, has returned to his desk in London after a two-month illness.

•

HUGH FINDLAY, M-G-M British publicity director, and ALFRED JUNGE, art director, are in Hollywood from New York.

•

SI BORUS, Monogram-Allied Artists' contract manager here, has gone to the Coast for conferences with WILLIAM Z. PORTER.

•

BYRON HOPKINS, Sidney, Ia., exhibitor, who has been in the Council Bluffs Hospital, has recuperated from illness.

•

ABE KRONENBERG, Warner special events department head, has returned to the home office from Cheyenne and Denver.

•

ISADOR M. RAPPAPORT, owner of the Hippodrome, Baltimore, was a recent visitor in New York.

•

FRED M. WILCOX, M-G-M director, returned to Hollywood from New York over the weekend.

•

MARJORIE KANE, former Paramount publicist at the home office, has left here for a Coast vacation.

•

GEORGE PAL will leave the Coast Wednesday for New York.

•

EDDIE BUZZELL, M-G-M director, is in town from the Coast.

Western Owners to Meet in Salt Lake

SALT LAKE CITY, June 1.—Industry representatives in Utah, Idaho and Montana will gather in Salt Lake City on June 10-12 for their annual Round-up, sponsored by the Salt Lake Motion Picture Club. Among activities planned are a golf tournament, screenings, and a dinner.

A meeting of Intermountain Theatres Association will be held at the same time and new officers will be elected to succeed Sam Gilette, president, and Ralph Trathen, secretary-treasurer.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ILLUSTRATIVE of the present-day problems of independent producers is this little anecdote relayed by one of them.

He acquired an outstanding best seller at tremendous cost and, with substantial backing for his production completed, made a releasing deal with United Artists. Meanwhile, the increasing popularity of the story property induced him to raise his initial sights and he decided upon two top-flight stars, male and female, in place of the somewhat lesser luminaries who had been tentatively spotted for the principal roles.

The new female star demanded one-third of the profits. The new male star would take no less than anything agreed upon for the female star. The latter refused over lengthy negotiations to alter her original demand. Faced with the impossible situation of signing away two-thirds of the profits before any participations other than those of the male and female stars had been met, the producer petitioned U. A. for a release from the distribution contract with the idea of starting all over again or, if necessary, disposing of the story property.

U. A., thus far, has refused to release the producer and the matter is stalemated.

• •

There were many along Broadway who smiled when Gus Eyssell sat down to play Arthur Rank's "Great Expectations" on his Radio City console.

"No names; costume story; Dickens' classic; English accents," went the comments. "Could Gus be slipping?"

"Expectations" finished its first week at the Hall with $134,800. That makes it a sure bet for three weeks and, possibly, a fourth. Just as good as the best of the Music Hall's recent performers.

Quite obviously, the Master of the Music Hall knows his customers as well as ever.

• •

A week's visit on Chicago's Film Row and in the Loop recently passed without the writer having heard a single hard times story or a pessimistic note.

The visit included conversations with numerous operators of small neighborhood and out of town theatres whom we met at the offices of Jack Kirsch, national Allied States and Illinois Allied president, and who also administers a buying group.

No one with whom we talked was greatly concerned because grosses are below the peak and inflated levels of 1946. Apparently none of them, first-run or subsequent operators or branch managers, expected to ride the gravy train forever. Their attitude was that they knew where it was going when they got aboard and they knew how long the ride would be. Also, they knew where they were when they alighted, and they are satisfied to be there.

•

Like the observations of seasoned distribution and exhibition men around New York, members of the Chicago trade concede that patrons are shopping. All that means is that the business of good pictures is big business, and that of weak pictures is puny business.

The over-all result is considered normal or somewhat better than that. There is no complaining over it and there are outright and spirited denials that business is bad.

The attitude toward the future is a healthy one in the Midwest. Everyone expects good times to continue, even to improve, providing Hollywood reduces the proportion of pictures that theatre shoppers can appraise from the sidewalk and pass by.

• •

Following some long and serious sales meeting conferences recently, Bill Rodgers' sales cabinet decided to end the proceedings on a light note. They turned the gathering over to the field men and invited them to have their say about anyone in the Loew's organization.

The field men came up with a Gridiron-type program, goodnaturedly lampooning the home office toppers.

One of the first skits had to do with Rodgers conducting a meeting of his sales cabinet. There was the business, characteristic of Rodgers, of removing eyeglasses at regular intervals, raised eyebrows, etc.

" 'Stardust' is a putrid title," the Rodgers impersonator began. "Let's change it." (Statisticians claim that more MGM titles are changed in New York than in Culver City.)

"It's not a bad title but let's change it anyhow," contributed the Eddie Aaron impersonator.

The nominations were thrown in freely and "Stardust" eventually became "Should Mother Marry?"

Newsreel Parade

THE eclipse of the sun takes prominence in the newsreel parade. Other items rounding out the reels are Japan's new constitution, the Shriners in their annual convention and sports. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 79—Scientists study eclipse of sun in Brazil. New constitution in Japan. Father Flanagan starts youth organization in Japan. Annual Shriners' convention in Atlantic City. Coast Guard Academy trains cadets in seamanship. Natural sanctuary for wild birds in Pyramid Lake, Nevada. Sports: rowing. Playful colts. Magicians in Chicago prove the hand is quicker than the eye.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 277—Total eclipse filmed by U. S. expedition in Brazil. Nation's Shriners on parade in Atlantic City. Japan: education of Crown Prince. Silk fashion show in Tokyo. The Wellesley crew. Meeting of magicians in Chicago. A pretzel-benders school.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 80—Some 16,000 Shriners parade in Atlantic City. Scientists study solar eclipse. Pretzel-twisting school. Japan hails new constitution. Japanese silk fair. Father Flanagan starts Boystown in Tokyo. Fishing in Colorado's Rockies.

RKO PATHE, No. 82—Eclipse of the sun. Holland tulip crop. General Eisenhower speech on war. UN youngsters at Steeplechase Park. Pope names Swiss Saint. California vs. Washington crew race.

UNIVERSAL, No. 43—Scientists study total eclipse in Brazil. Japan's new constitutional government in effect. Fashion parade at Tokyo's silk fair. Some 16,000 Shriners march at annual convention in Atlantic City. "Fine art" of pretzel-making shown at Allentown, Pa. Master magicians hold meeting in Chicago.

Upstate Now Books, Buys for 19 Houses

ALBANY, June 1.—Upstate Theatres, cooperative buying-booking corporation here, has increased the number of theatres it services to 19 with the addition of four more houses recently.

The added theatres are: The Arlington, East Arlington, Vt., which Jack Stoops bought from J. W. Bird; the Modern and Colonial, Manchester Depot, Vt., operated by Bird, and the Playhouse, Manchester Center, Vt., operated by Frank Dean.

Sierra Pictures Set For 'Joan' Filming

HOLLYWOOD, June 1.—Ingrid Bergman, Victor Fleming and Walter Wanger have completed organization of Sierra Pictures, and will begin filming of "Joan of Lorraine," starring Miss Bergman, on July 14 at the Hal Roach studios. Fleming will direct the film, which will be made in Technicolor. Screenplay by Maxwell Anderson and Andrew Solt is nearing completion.

Republic Board Meeting

Officers and directors of Republic Pictures Corp. met over the weekend at the home office here. The meeting lasted more than three hours. They declined to comment on deliberations, except to say: "It was a good meeting."

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco. New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Coming Events

June 3—Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States meeting, Jung Hotel, New Orleans.

June 3-4—Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Arkansas meeting, Little Rock.

June 3-6—Columbia sales meeting, Drake Hotel, Chicago.

June 10-12—Radio Manufacturers Association annual meeting, Hotel Stevens, Chicago.

June 23-25 — Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana convention, Lake Wawasee, Ind.

June 24-26—Allied Theatres of New Jersey 28th annual convention, Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City.

SMPE Will Stress Exhibition at Meet

A special papers committee, including four circuit representatives, has been appointed by Clyde R. Keith, editorial vice-president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, to obtain papers and experts for the Theatre Engineering Conference which will be featured at the 62nd semi-annual SMPE convention, to be held Oct. 20-24 at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York. Leonard Satz of the Century Circuit will act as committee chairman and will be assisted by a group including Seymour Seider, Prudential Playhouses; Henry Anderson, Paramount; Charles Bachman, Warner Theatres; Ben Schlanger, theatre architect, and D. E. Hyndman, Eastman Kodak.

"Selection of theatre men principally to assist in working out the papers program for the special theatre conference is designed to insure discussions of major interest to theatre owners and architects,'" says the SMPE.

The regular papers committee, under the chairmanship of Gordon A. Chambers, assisted by Herbert Barnett, New York; R. T. Van Ninam, Chicago; N. L. Simmons, Hollywood, and H. S. Walker, Montreal, will solicit papers for the general sessions convention.

An exhibit committee also has been appointed by James Frank, Jr., chairman of the general committee. This group consists of W. W. Simons, Altec Service, chairman; Sidney B. Moss, Amusement Supply Co., and J. W. Servies, National Theatre Supply. Harry B. Braun of Radio City Music Hall has been appointed public address consultant.

Cron Installed as Trinidad Manager

John B. Cron, formerly in the U. S. Army Air Forces, has been installed as general manager of Monogram Pictures of Trinidad, with headquarters in Port-of-Spain, Monogram announces here.

Set Italian Film

Film Rights International's production of "Jealousy," made in Rome, will have its American premiere at the Times Theatre, here, following the run of "Two Anonymous Letters."

Reviews

"The Vigilantes Return"

(*Universal-International*)

Hollywood, June 1.

JON HALL, Margaret Lindsay, Andy Devine and Cinecolor are names with which to exploit this fast 67 minutes of shooting, riding, plotting, counter-plotting and assorted excitements produced by Howard Welsch and directed by Ray Taylor, from a script by Roy Chanslor. It rolls fast enough to minimize the effect of occasional cloudiness along the story line, and the color adds to the sum of its values.

Hall is seen as a marshall of some kind, presumably Federal, who rides into Bannack under circumstances designed to get him mistaken for a bad man outlawed by Texas. His identity is known, though, to Miss Lindsay, co-owner of the town's hot-spot, and if she hadn't been in love with him for years she'd tell her partner, top man in the local crime ring, but she does, so she doesn't tell. It is quite a complicated setup, in which the local judge's daughter, secretly in love with the villain, crosses up her father, as well as the hero, and gets shot for her pains, accidentally, and so it goes until finally the judge, despairing of achieving justice within the law, sends for the vigilantes, a vaguely defined band of range dwellers, who shoot it out with the desperadoes in a rip-roaring finish.

There are fights aplenty, jail breaks, dance hall and barroom sequences in which lead and liquor flow freely, and the film can be presented as something special in those theatres where Westerns are the principal attractions.

Running time, 67 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"The Queen's Necklace"

(*Ile de France—Siritzky International*)

ALEXANDRE DUMAS' famous novel of the reign of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette has been converted into a noteworthy French-language motion picture. "The Queen's Necklace" offers American "art film" patrons a highly convincing reproduction of the regal glamour of 18th Century France, and an expertly detailed, though ponderously paced story that builds with startling suddenness after about an hour of muted suspense, into a realistically horrifying climax wherein the beautiful, unscrupulous heroine (Viviane Romance) is brutally whipped and branded publicly. That sequence is likely to be remembered by those who see it—not only for the shocking detail in which it is presented, but for the superb performance of Mlle. Romance.

Mlle. Romance plays the impecunious Countess de la Motte, who, capitalizing on the political disfavor suffered by the ambitious Cardinal de Rohan, makes him the dupe of a successful plot to steal from the Royal jewelers a fabulously expensive necklace which had been fashioned for the Queen. When the trick is uncovered, he is sent to prison and the plotters—the Countess, her decadent husband and her lover, all of whom had been living luxuriously off the proceeds of the stolen necklace—are captured. There ensues a sensational trial that rocks France's political structure, and the Countess gets her punishment. Marion Dorian, Maurice Escande, Jacques Dacqmine, Michel Salina, and others perform splendidly in supporting roles. Direction by Marcel L'Herbier is impressive.

Running time, 105 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, May 17.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Allied Prod. Holds Lease on U. S. Land

WASHINGTON, June 1.—Two Senate subcommittees heard testimony Thursday that Allied Productions, Inc., of New York, holds a 25-year lease for several thousand square feet of the Government's $140,000,000 basic magnesium plant at Henderson, Nev. The subcommittees are investigating alleged delays in disposal of the plant, but were sidetracked on the API testimony. The API contract provides for use of the land at no cost until they begin film operations, and a War Assets Administration official said that the company, while not yet operating, stores some costumes at the plant.

Delay D.C. Video Meet

WASHINGTON, June 1.—Set to open here Tuesday to formulate a schedule of expected installation dates for inter-city television relay facilities, an informal engineering conference has been postponed by the Federal Communications Commission until June 9. Television broadcasters, communications common carriers and manufacturers of video and microwave equipment are among those expected to attend.

Actors' Equity Holds Annual Meet Today

The 34th annual meeting of Actors' Equity Association will be held here this afternoon at the Hotel Astor. The order of business will include the election of 10 councillors to serve five years, plus one replacement.

On the regular ticket are: Robert Burton, Lawrence Fletcher, Majorie Gateson, Margalo Gillmore, Ross Hertz, Bert Lahr, Raymond Massey, Elliott Nugent, Philip Ober, Frank M. Thomas, Sr., and to serve as a replacement for an unexpired term of one year, Eddie Nugent. On the independent ticket are Ralph Bellamy, Ilka Chase, Tom Ewell, Alexander Kirkland, Aline MacMahon, Mildred Natwick, Helen Rag, David Wayne.

Turner Returns to Altec as Manager

Donald R. Turner, who was with Altec until early 1945, at which time he resigned to accept an executive position with International Business Machines, has rejoined Altec as branch manager of the Atlanta district.

Columbia Meeting In Chicago Today

CHICAGO, June 1.—Columbia Home Office executives and top sales personnel, headed by general sales manager A. Montague, will arrive here tomorrow to prepare for the four-day meeting of branch and district managers to be held in the Drake Hotel. Individual gatherings of delegates are to precede general sessions.

Others from the home office attending are: Rube Jackter, Louis Astor, Louis Weinberg, Irving Wormser, Maurice Grad, George Josephs, Leo Jaffe, H. C. Kaufman, Joseph Freiberg, Vincent Borelli, Irving Sherman, Sydney Singerman, Seth Raisler.

All branch managers and nine division managers will also be present.

Schneider Feted by Para. Associates

William Schneider, who will start new duties at Donahue and Coe next Monday, was tendered a farewell luncheon Thursday at the Blue Ribbon Restaurant here by his associates at Paramount.

Among those present from Paramount were: Stanley Shuford, Sid Mesibov, C. N. Odell, Rex Taylor, Aileen Brenon, Lou Pelegrine, George Harvey and Virginia Morris. From Buchanan and Co. were Charles Friedman, Ernest Mueller, George Richardson, Roy Winkler and William Ard. Vincent Trotta, National Screen Service art department head; George Fraser, Herbert Berg, Leo Brody and Hal Danson, all Paramount alumni, were also on hand.

Delay US-French Remittance Talks

WASHINGTON, June 1.—Progress of Franco-American talks on film remittances have been delayed pending the return to Paris of top French negotiators now at the Geneva trade conferences, according to State Department officials here. The French are asking for a ceiling of $3,000,000 annually on remittances from their country to the U. S. film industry.

Although French delegates to the International Trade Organization have returned to Paris from time to time, there apparently has been no opportunity for intensive discussions.

Fabian Addresses Graduates of NYU

The industry "needs a return to the concepts of basic showmanship," Si Fabian, circuit operator and president of the American Theatres Association, told a graduating class of the motion picture department at New York University. He warned that with the expansion of theatre business there has set in a "department store" point of view that augurs ill for the future of the industry. "We are not merchandisers. We sell intangibles and when we forget that, we miss the whole point of the theatre's purpose."

142 Canadian Films

The National Film Board of Canada has compiled its first peacetime catalogue of 16mm. films available in the United States. It contains titles of 142 films.

Do you know of any picture that was ever received more enthusiastically than "Great Expectations"?

Kate Cameron in the DAILY NEWS

● "'Great Expectations' is as brilliant a transposition of novel to screen as any in the history of moving pictures. . . . I recommend with all my heart to those to whom Dickens is still a closed book, a visit to the Music Hall, where they may make a short cut to the acquaintance of one of the great novelists of the Victorian era. The picture is an enchanting reproduction of the book in that it demands your full attention . . . The story is guaranteed to keep you enthralled during its two hours of running time."

Archer Winsten in the N. Y. POST

● "The arrival of the British film, 'Great Expectations' at the Music Hall marks nothing less than a new era in the transfer of literary masterpieces to the screen. . . . For delight in sheer perfection of movie making, the movie 'Great Expectations' is breath-taking."

Cecelia Ager in PM

● "'Great Expectations' is a lovable giant of a picture, great in conception, great in execution, great in the thousands of satisfactions it accords. Rich, substantial, savory: soundly built, beautifully lucid, infinitely tender, it is a masterpiece of the story telling art, a great movie that does a great novel full justice, and more. It takes a classic of English literature and out of its appreciation and enjoyment of it, out of its understanding love for it, dramatizes, points up, and intensifies its values. The basic quality of 'Great Expectations' is romantic entertainment: it is full of the joy and richness of life. . . . In direction, mood, production, acting, writing, sound, photography, it is very nearly flawless."

Eileen Creelman in the N. Y. SUN

● "'Great Expectations' is one of the top English films, a pleasure to Dickens' readers, a picture that may send millions back to re-reading the classics."

We regret that space does not permit us to reprint the reviews of the New York motion picture critics in full, but we believe that these chosen excerpts will give you a general idea of the superb quality of this fine motion picture...

Of course, this reception by the press is a
being done by "Great Expectations" a

Bosley Crowther in the N. Y. TIMES

"If there is any lingering necessity of inspiring more Charles Dickens fans—not to mention more fans for British movies—the thing that should certainly do the job is the film made from 'Great Expectations', which came to the Music Hall yesterday. For here in a perfect motion picture, made in England (where it should have been made), the British have done for Dickens what they did for Shakespeare with 'Henry V': they have proved that his works have more life in them than almost anything now written for the screen."

Howard Barnes in the N. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE

"A celebrated novel has been served superlatively in the screen adaptation of 'Great Expectations'. The new British film at the Music Hall realizes the heart, humor and dramatic excitement of the Dickens work in engrossing cinematic terms. . . . In short, this J. Arthur Rank Cineguild Production is a rare and memorable motion picture. Good sense and artistry have gone into every reel of the film. . . . A screen entertainment of stature and irresistible appeal has come to town."

Frank Quinn in the DAILY MIRROR

"The Universal-International release of the British-filmed novel has the quality of enduring greatness. All the characters get the breath of life in this celluloid rebirth. . . . 'Great Expectations' is a great picture, fulfilling, with no trace of dissapointment, the promise of its title."

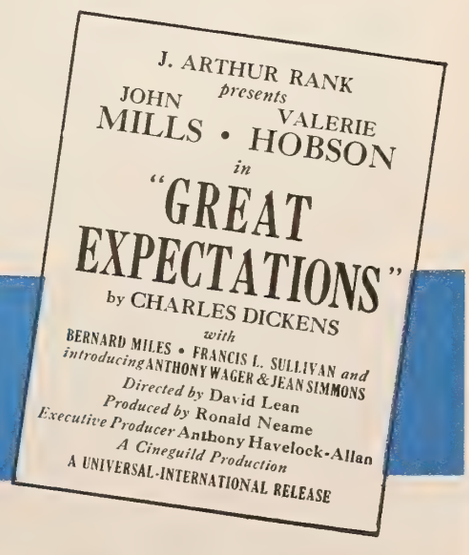
Rose Pelswick in the N. Y. JOURNAL-AMERICAN

" 'Great Expectations' is a screen classic, a beautiful, sensitive translation of the novel by Charles Dickens. All the characters, the quiet charm and the well-knit melodramatics of the novel are spun out with wondrous skill."

Alton Cook in the N. Y. WORLD-TELEGRAM

"Hail to the luck and the art that have made the English version of 'Great Expectations' such a good picture. The people at the Music Hall choose carefully, with an inspectorial eye about stars and box office values. But as the Music Hall people knew when they booked 'Great Expectations', the news of a good picture gets around in phenomenally short time . . . Here is the realm of great movie entertainment—and, why don't we have more of it."

eing reflected in the wonderful business
ie Radio City Music Hall.



Hollywood

Hollywood, June 1

THE life story of the song writing team of Rogers and Hart is to be brought to the screen by M-G-M as an all-star musical with a cast headed by Judy Garland, Frank Sinatra and Gene Kelly, under the title of "Words and Music." To be produced by Arthur Freed, the story will dramatize the rise of this team of tunesmiths, and will feature many of the nostalgic songs they composed for Broadway. . . . Three new pictures are on the starting schedule at Warner Brothers for early June, under the production guidance of Alex Gottlieb. They are: "Head Over Heels," "Mary Hagen" and "Romance in High C," the latter a Michael Curtiz production. "Head Over Heels" will be directed by Frederick deCordova, and "Mary Hagen" by Peter Godfrey. Curtiz will direct his own film.

•

Universal-International has five new fetaures scheduled for the cameras during June. They are: "Tap Roots," co-starring Van Heflin and Susan Hayward, a Walter Wanger production, with George Marshall directing; "Black Bart," with George Sherman directing for producer Leonard Goldstein; "Homicide," new Mark Hellinger production, with Barry Fitzgerald and Don Taylor co-starring and Jules Dassin directing; "Imagination," first of the Kanin Productions, starring Ronald Colman, with George Cukor directing, and "The Senator Was Indiscreet." William Powell starts his loan-out deal between M-G-M and Universal-International as star of this one. . . . Jerry Bresler has been assigned to produce the film version of the Gabrielle Roy novel, "The Tin Flute" at Universal-International.

•

Steven Geray has been signed for Columbia's "When a Girl's Beautiful." . . . John Lund, who made his screen bow opposite Olivia de Havilland in "To Each His Own,' has been engaged for Paramount's "Night Has a Thousand Eyes," starring Edward G. Robinson. . . . Moppet actor Peter Miles gets the major juvenile role of Tom in the Charles K. Feldman-Lewis Milestone production of "The Red Pony," current at Republic.

•

Robert Walker and Kathryn Grayson divide stellar honors in M-G-M's "Triumph of Music," with Walker essaying the role of composer Mozart, and Miss Grayson enacting the blind pianist in the story. . . . Stage actor Sam Wanamaker has signed a seven-year acting contract with United States Pictures. He will co-star with Lilli Palmer in Milton Sperling's "Ever the Beginning," for Warner release. . . . Opera stars Lauritz Melchior and Marina Koshetz have been added to the cast of M-G-M's "The Red Mill."

•

Stella Adler, scion of a long noted family of stage players, has been set for a featured role in United States Pictures' "Ever the Beginning." . . . Phyllis Calvert, British stage-screen star, will arrive in Hollywood shortly to start her first acting assignment with Paramount in "My Own True Love," in which she will share co-starring honors with Melvyn Douglas.

W. J. McG.

Reviews

"Take My Life"

(Cineguild-General Film Distributors)

London

CINEGUILD herein has put across a plain, honest-to-goodness, murder thriller. And not so very plain at that. For it is as compact, adroit, subtly photographed and mounted a piece as British screens have seen in many a day.

Phillipa Shelley is an opera-singer of public renown and private tantrums. After her triumphant "Traviata" at London's Covent Garden she hurls a scent-bottle at her patient husband, because of her unjust suspicions that said husband is carrying on with a previous sweetheart who happens to be playing in Covent Garden's "second fiddle" detachment. From then on comes a train of highly plausible circumstance—that tangled weave of circumstantial evidence—which leads long-suffering husband to the Old Bailey dock and the charge of wilfully murdering the second fiddler.

Richly—so every woman in the audience and quite a few men will feel—the fiddler earned her fate. But, so cunningly does director Ronald Neame unveil the thread of ostensible proof that until the last moment it looks as though the Law will get the husband to the gallows. That the Law doesn't get its way is due only to the perspicacity of the opera-singer, who foxes down the real murderer far away in Scotland, just because she hears a little schoolboy whistle a tune which she knows the unlamented deceased had composed; murderer being a half-crazed schoolmaster who had married the fiddler and couldn't abide her ill-mannered ugly nagging. What raises "Take My Life" out of the ordinarily-competent rut into that of a refinement of entertainment is the deft cunning and inordinately skilful direction of Ronald Neame; and his players, including, in particular, Greta Gynt.

The Gynt girl lately has lent lustre to a bunch of British productions. Herein she just scales the heights of beauty, plus allure, plus competence, plus always that something which the others haven't got. Britain's screens may have lost Deborah Kerr for the time being, but here is Greta Gynt ready to take her place in every respect. But it is difficult to find fault with any of the Neame players who comprise, in the leading parts, Hugh Williams, Marius Goring, Francis L. Sullivan. This one will rank high in Britain's box-office grosses at the year's end.

Running time, 79 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

PETER BURNUP

"The Nuremberg Trials"

(Artkino)

THE trial of the German war criminals at Nuremberg has been made into feature by the Soviet. It constitutes a grim but memorable reminder of the terrible horrors of the Nazis. The film is at least an interesting contribution to the field of news reporting.

The camera technique employed was to focus on each of the accused criminals, then by flashback, show the inhumanities they were responsible for. The opening address and subsequent interrogations of U. S. Court Justice Robert Jackson, American prosecutor, is seen and heard, as well as those of the Russian, British and French prosecutors. Those passing in review are: Goering, Ribbentrop, Keitel, Rosenberg, Hess, Doenitz, von Papen and others. Roman Karmen produced, C. Svilov directed. Narration is in English.

Running time, 57 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, May 24.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"The Miracle of Monte Cassino"

(Malenotti—Simpex Co.)

"MIRACLE of Monte Cassino," a splendid Italian production, tells a swift-moving, gripping, episodical story of the life and works of St. Benedict. Maleno Malenotti produced and Guiseppe M. Scotese directed the film which accents the courageous struggle of Benedict in his fight to protect and give hope and courage to the oppressed and persecuted.

The story is told in flashbacks as refugees from Monte Cassino are fleeing from disaster in the recent war. Fosco Giachetti gives an excellent characterization as St. Benedict who withdrew from the corrupt Roman life to a hermitage and later attempted to reform a group of monks and subsequently founded the Benedictine Order. English subtitles are adequate.

Running time, 90 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

Lower Payroll for Players in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, June 1.—Producers, bewailing the high payroll for players —$4,400,000 in 1946—are heartened by prospects that wages for performers will be far less this year for several players, including some stars, have voluntarily agreed to take less pay. The players said this was their contribution toward helping the film industry through difficult times, aggravated by the restriction of credit by the large private banks. Also, there are prospects of fewer pictures this year.

Appeal Permit Refusal

HARTFORD, June 1. — An appeal against the refusal of building inspector Henry Falsey of New Haven to issue a permit for the construction of a quonset-type building for use as a theatre has been filed in New Haven Common Pleas Court by Leonard Sampson and Robert Spoeick.

New Coast Labor Law

SACRAMENTO, CAL., June 1.—A bill has been passed and signed by the governor which will permit women in executive positions to work more than eight hours a day.

MGM Field Meetings End at Denver

DENVER, June 1. — M-G-M office managers, field auditors and master bookers for the Western and Southwestern branches concluded general and individual meetings at the Cosmopolitan Hotel. This was the second and final meeting, the first having been held last week in Cincinnati for the group East of the Mississippi.

Streamlining operations keynoted both sessions, which were attended by Charles K. Stern, Alan F. Cummings, Harold Postman, Charles D. O'Brien, M. L. Simons and Bill Ornstein.

MGM Dubbed Films Boost Loew Drive

MEXICO CITY, June 1. — Metro's "Arthur M. Loew Tribute" drive, brought 25 per cent more business than quota requirements, announces Carlos E. Niebla, M-G-M manager here. He said success of the drive demonstrated the popularity in Mexico of Spanish-dubbed pictures for practically all films in the campaign were in that language. He said that pictures in Spanish, straight or dubbed, appeal to at least 99 per cent of theatre patrons in this country, estimating that only about 10,000 people here, a city of 2,000,000, understand English.

Sochin, Carmichael In New U-I Posts

CINCINNATI, June 1. — Irving Sochin, formerly general manager of Theatre Owners Corp., buying-booking organization, has been appointed manager for Universal-International here, succeeding William Carmichael, who has been transferred to the St. Louis branch.

Sochin, who is chief barker of Variety Club, Tent No. 3, formerly was with 20th Century-Fox in various sales and managerial capacities.

Canon Brohee, Film Leader, Dead Abroad

Canon Abel Brohée, 67, founder and president of the International Catholic Office of the Cinema (L'Office Catholique International du Cinéma), died in Brussels on May 1, according to belated word received here.

Canon Brohée had been working on plans for the film congress which the International Catholic Office of the Cinema will sponsor this month in Brussels. At that meeting his successor will be elected.

Department Store Trying Television

An analysis of the use and effectiveness of television in a department store with telecasts of its own shows to be transmitted to various receivers spotted in a number of departments and in show windows will be undertaken by the Gertz Department Store, Jamaica, N. Y., beginning tomorrow.

French Films in South

Sack Amusement Enterprises will distribute five French-language pictures of Distinguished Films in 12 Southern states, through its exchanges in Dallas, New Orleans, Charlotte and Atlanta. First release will be "Amok."

Egypt Freezes Half Of Remittances

WASHINGTON, June 1. — The Egyptian government has decreed that only 50 per cent of remittances due to American film companies can be sent out of the country, according to reports received here.

State Department officials said they have heard rumors of some restrictive s[illegible]DL. but had no official confirmation or details yet.

One report said that the measure was "temporary," until a general study of Egyptian foreign exchange problems can be made.

Motion Picture Association officials here are expected to lodge protests with the State Department over the action, pointing out that it probably violates U. S.-Egyptian trade treaties. Another pressure-point will be the fact that Egypt is presently seeking a U.S. loan.

Nebenzal

(*Continued from page* 1)

absorbed for the most part by construction outside the industry, he believes.

Nebenzal reports the latest in Hollywood trends:

Production costs are still spiralling upward but the unnatural rise will come to a natural end when expenses exceed returns and unemployment is the result;

Financiers of Hollywood film projects are gradually following more conservative courses in a period of economic readjustment, particularly where independent production is concerned; and

Studio space availability is at its highest point in several months.

Nebenzal reported new wage demands by the Screen Actors Guild, some of them justified, he believes, while others are impossible to accede to, the latter providing that discussion of a script by performer with a director or producer be counted as employment time for the actor.

Nebenzal has "Whistle Stop" and "The Chase" in current release, and he plans to deliver "Heaven Only Knows" to UA for distribution in August and "Atlantis" for September release. Following these will be "Madame Butterfly," "Mayerling" and another as yet untitled, all going through UA.

Export Association

(*Continued from page* 1)

zal, for one, openly complained at a press meeting here last Thursday that he has yet to derive any monetary benefits from the MPEA, while he said he has definite knowledge that others outside the MPEA have made lucrative deals in foreign markets on flat sales.

Queried on this subsequently, Irving Maas, vice-president and general manager of MPEA, conceded that such deals have been made but argued they would have been impossible if the eight companies were operating separately and had made their product available to stubborn foreign markets for the sake of immediate financial gain.

MPEA's expressed aim is to open all markets to competitive trade and until this is done it will operate as a monopoly in efforts to surmount barriers of all sorts against Hollywood product.

Tax Relief

(*Continued from page* 1)

articles—telegrams and furs—are in need of immediate tax relief.

Ted R. Gamble, ATA board chairman, asked that all taxes in the lower scale admission bracket—below 40 cents—be eliminated entirely, but that higher admissions, such as in the first-run theatres, be taxed on a graduated basis. Gamble said his plan was designed to provide an over-all cut of about 10 per cent in theatre taxes.

Asks Return to 10%

A. Julian Brylawski, vice-president of the MPTOA, asked the Committee for a return to the pre-war 10 per cent admission taxes, and stressed that he is not asking complete abolition of the tax. However, in a statement filed with the Committee, but not read, Brylawski did say that the present Federal tax "should be abolished completely or at the very least go back to the prewar rates" of 10 per cent.

Both industry witnesses stressed the fact that theatre attendance has leveled off from 15 to 35 per cent, due to the high prices exhibitors must charge to cover the high admission tax. They said a tax cut would result in lower prices.

'Only Relaxation' for Many

Gamble pointed out that a 50 per cent cut in admission taxes would cost the Government only $150,000,000 to $175,000,000 yearly, whereas failure to cut the tax would reduce industry payments considerably by reducing profits.

In answer to committee questioning, Gamble called the present tax "burdensome," since the motion picture is a necessity to millions of people. "It is the only form of relaxation millions of people have," he said. Both Brylawski and Gamble pointed out that it is the attendance of low income groups that has fallen off, and that lower prices through lower taxes is the only solution.

Brylawski told the Committee that the only thing that can be said in favor of the admission tax is that it is the most easily collected tax. He urged Congress to rely more on income taxes for revenue-raising than on sales or excise taxes.

MPA Not Represented

Gamble told the Committee that "with the exception of a downward revision in personal income taxes, there is no tax reduction that would be so popular with so many people as elimination of the 20 per cent tax on film tickets." He said he "frankly admitted" that he opposed the tax because "it is bad for the theatre business," and added that theatre business is unique in that smaller grosses mean not merely smaller profits—as in the case of most businesses—but usually no profit at all.

Jack Bryson, legislative counsel of the Motion Picture Association, who attended the hearings, told reporters that the MPA had finally decided not to testify on the theatre tax question but would leave it up to exhibitor organizations to "carry the ball."

GE Names A. F. Wild

SYRACUSE, June 1.—A. F. Wild has been appointed sales manager of television equipment in the General Electric transmitter division here, by P. G. Caldwell, manager of the division's sales.

Kirsch Dinner

(*Continued from page* 1)

Harry A. Cole, of Dallas, are among industry leaders who have already indicated they will attend the testimonial banquet to be held in honor of Jack Kirsch, national president of Allied States, given by Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, at the Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City, on June 26. It will be held in conjunction with the convention of New Jersey Allied on June 24-26, running through to the following Thursday.

Several hundred exhibitors from all over the country are expected to attend the convention, one of the features of which will be an open forum for discussion of industry problems.

In addition to those above named, others who have already signified intentions to attend, according to Edward Lachman, president of New Jersey Allied, are: Martin G. Smith, Toledo; M. A. Rosenberg, Pittsburgh; Sidney Samuelson, Philadelphia; Nathan Yamins, Boston; Leon Goldberg, Boston; Max Alderman, New Haven; Mike Leventhal, Baltimore; Walter Mitchell, Boston; Benny Berger, Minneapolis; Jesse L. Stern, New York; Van Nomikos, Chicago; Irving Dollinger, Linden, N. J.; H. W. Robertson, Covington, Va.; C. B. Wolf, Baltimore; Harry Fried, Ardmore, Pa.; Robert Goldblatt, Tarrytown, N. Y.; James Papayanakos, Gouvernor, N. Y.; Bob Pascoe, Newark; Lee Newbury, Manasquan, N. J.; David Snaper, New Brunswick, N. J.; William Schnopper, Centerdale, R. I.; Don Jacocks, Boston.

Rank Will Not Buy

(*Continued from page* 1)

any intention to acquire Monogram, Republic "or any other company." Expressing satisfaction with his Universal-International and Eagle-Lion connections and their personnel, Rank reiterated remarks made at press conferences since his arrival in this country that his chief objective at this time is more U. S. playing time for his product.

Johnston Introduces Rank

The British film producer was flanked at the conference table by Eric Johnston, MPA head, who introduced him, and Robert Young, of Pathe Industries which controls E-L and Producers Releasing Corp., as well as by J. Cheever Cowdin, Arthur Krim, Nate Blumberg, Kenneth Young, William Goetz and Aubrey Schenck.

Young, who declared that his purpose was to "try to persuade this industry to adopt international exchange of products in place of present insistence on dollars," also put at rest rumors that E-L and PRC would be merged by saying that they will continue to be operated as individual companies.

Young Favors Exchange

Elaborating, under questioning, his insistence upon exchange of product, Young declared: "I am for accepting pictures from all countries in exchange for ours . . . including Russia."

Johnston, in his introduction of Rank, said: "Seldom do we get a chance to introduce welcome competition. Rank represents real, honest, clean competition, and Hollywood welcomes that."

In the evening, the MPA played host to Rank and 55 studio executives at a dinner, with Johnston officiating.

Connors Retires

(*Continued from page* 1)

C. Gehring, Western sales manager, had been named assistant general sales manager.

Connors declined to amplify on the company's announcement. He said that his only plans at present are to leave the city today for a fishing trip to Lake o' the Woods. Asked how long he expected to be away, he replied: "As long as the fishing is good."

William J. Kupper, recently appointed sales head for the company in Great Britain, was the last to hold the title of general sales manager at 20th Century-Fox. The company heretofore did not have an assistant general sales manager.

Skouras' Statement

Connors' retirement was announced "with regret" by Skouras. The statement read: "Skouras said there was a deep personal friendship between himself and Connors and that during their five years of intimate association he had come to feel toward him as if he were a member of his personal as well as official family. That relationship, said Skouras, I count as 'one of my most valuable possessions, and getting it has been one of the joys of my life.'

"Connors stated," the company announcement concluded, "that he reciprocated Spyros Skouras' feeling and that his primary concern was the continued success and welfare of Spyros Skouras and the 20th Century-Fox organization."

Entered Industry in 1913

Connors also was a member of the 20th-Fox board of directors. He entered the industry in 1913 as a New York salesman for Pathe; became a salesman for Metro in 1916; assistant branch manager, 1917; branch manager, 1918, and was named assistant general sales manager of Metro in 1924. He became Southern sales manager of M-G-M with the formation of that company, and in 1933 was appointed Canadian sales manager, and subsequently Canadian and Southern sales manager, and also Eastern sales manager.

In 1941, he left MGM to become personal assistant to the late Sidney R. Kent, then president of 20th Century-Fox. In 1942 he was named to the post he now relinquishes.

O'Brien Condemns

(*Continued from page* 1)

and political differences to advance any motion picture or motion picture company," O'Brien declared. Pointing out that the British industry learned much from the American industry, O'Brien said that he considered it "most ungracious" for British firms to adopt an attitude of hostility toward the U. S.

He urged that Hollywood and London work together with a periodic exchange of ideas. The least film-minded people in the world, he went on, are the diplomats. "We must educate our own Governments," O'Brien said concerning the tastes of the peoples of the world, as reflected in their reception of motion pictures.

O'Brien expressed strong opposition to Communism, as did Richard F. Walsh, international president of IATSE, who spoke briefly. Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, praised O'Brien for his "far-sighted internationalism."

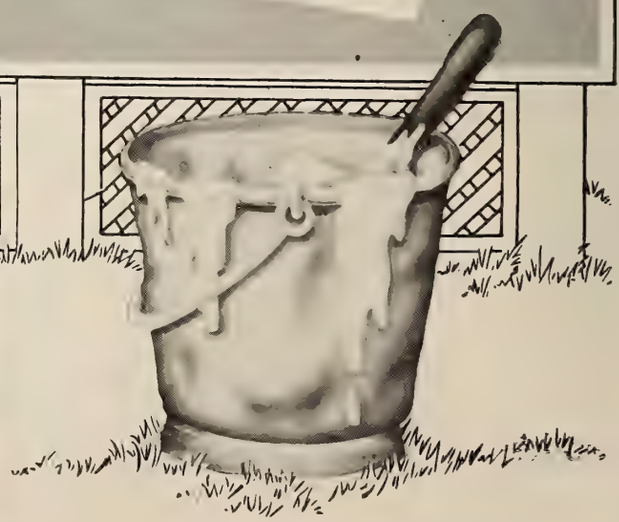
Get back to SHOWMANSHIP!

says Abel Green Editor of VARIETY





"You just can't hang out a shingle and expect to be in business as effectively as your competitor who ballyhoos his show a little more, advertises it better, merchandises it to a fuller degree — or has a better picture."



Take a tip from a SHOWMAN!...Get out and SELL! Get out and YELL! Get out and TELL your patrons about your ATTRACTIONS! Use the NEWSPAPERS...the RADIO...BILL-POSTING...HERALDS...your LOBBY and FRONT...use your SCREEN...to let the folks know...there's a *Show going on*...and THEY're *invited*!...Join The PRIZE BABY!...Get Back To SHOWMANSHIP!

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 107 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 1947 TEN CENTS

Two-Thirds Of MPF Setup Is Completed

28 Trustees, Chairmen, 278 Committeemen Set

By CHARLES L. FRANKE

In terms of completed and immediately pending area organizational activity, the Motion Picture Foundation has achieved in less than two months about two-thirds of the work leading to its becoming a national industry philanthropic organization.

Since mid-April, some 28 national trustees and area chairmen and about 278 local committeemen have been elected in 16 cities.

The next organizational meeting definitely scheduled will be held in Salt Lake City on June 11, with Tracy Barham and Sam Gillette serving as temporary co-chairmen. And, although no dates have been set, meetings are expected to be held shortly in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, New Haven, New Orleans, New York, Oklahoma City, Portland and

(*Continued on page 3*)

Yellen Is Trustee Of Buffalo MPF

BUFFALO, N. Y., June 2.—Max Yellen was elected national trustee and George MacKenna local chairman of the Buffalo exchange area committee of the Motion Picture Foundation at a meeting today at the Hotel Statler. Louis A. Novins, assistant to Barney Balaban, chairman of the Foundation's temporary steering committee, was principal speaker. Vincent McFaul was elected treasurer.

Cal. Wage-Hour Law In Effect on July 1

LOS ANGELES, June 2.—California's new minimum wage and hour law, which will affect the motion picture and allied entertainment industries, with others, will go into effect on July 1, following denial of a writ of mandate to stay enforcement of the 65-cent minimum wage law. The Appellate Court here acted on the request by several industries to stay enforcement.

N.Y. Theatres Are Booming

The holiday weekend brought New York first runs thousands of additional customers and the payoff at box-offices was little short of overwhelming. The tourist trade boosted income a good deal especially at the larger theatres and particularly at the Music Hall, while some of the other situations were somewhat slighted.

A new Memorial Day record at the Hollywood was scored by "Possessed," which brought in $30,000 on Thursday through Sunday. Business for the first week is expected to hit $45,000, which is top-notch.

Going into a second week, "Great Expectations" with a stage show lured

(*Continued on page 3*)

May Extend Ban on Theatre Building

WASHINGTON, June 2.—The U. S. Housing Expediter could continue to require Government approval of theatre construction projects if he finds a shortage of building material exists or is likely to exist, according to legislation passed by the Senate today.

This is substantially the same provision as that enacted by the House several weeks ago. The only difference is that the House bill does not vest this power specifically in the Housing Expediter.

Byrnes Engaged as Johnston Aide

Hollywood, June 2.—James F. Byrnes, former Secretary of State, has been engaged to work with Eric Johnston as counsel in several industry matters, including presentation of the industry's case at forthcoming hearings in Washington before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, Johnston announced tonight following a meeting of the board of the Association of Motion Picture Producers. Two major assignments for Byrnes will be the development of a system of fair trade practices and a program to "protect the freedom of the screen." Y. Frank Freeman was named chairman of the AMPP board.

Settle Two Trust Suits in Chicago

CHICAGO, June 2.—Agreements in settlement of the anti-trust suits brought against major distributors and affiliated circuits by the Riverside Theatre, Milwaukee, and the Minnesota Theatre, Minneapolis, were signed here today by parties to the litigation, John Mulder and A. W. Brussel, attorneys for the plaintiffs, announced.

Terms of the settlement were not disclosed, however.

"The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer"

[*RKO Radio*] — **It Can't Miss**

THE names of Cary Grant, Myrna Loy, Shirley Temple and Rudy Vallee as principals are guarantee enough of solid grosses for this comedy, but their performances — all three surpassing their recent works by wide margin — provide assurance that the attraction will not only open strong but will grow stronger as the run progresses and word gets around that something special in the comedy line is on tap. Brilliantly produced by Dore Schary, expertly scripted by Sidney Sheldon, and directed with fine interpretation of its humorous values, by Irving Reis, the picture is a natural for all types of audiences and all localities.

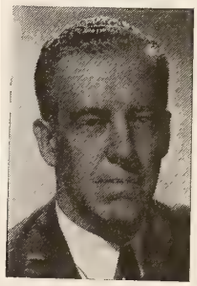
The script presents Grant as a pleasantly un-arty artist given to getting himself into cafe episodes which land him with some regularity before the bar of justice, and Miss Loy plays a lady judge who presides at one of the sessions. Miss Temple is seen as her impressionable little sister, of high school age, and Vallee as an assistant district attorney in love with the judge. Miss Temple becomes enamoured of Grant and crashes his apartment while he is away, apprising him of her presence, on his return, just as Miss Loy and Vallee, missing her and tracing her to the

(*Continued on page 3*)

Smith Shifts Personnel At 20th-Fox

Moon, Samson Selected To Head New Divisions

Sweeping personnel changes, together with an increase from four to six divisional sales territories, were disclosed here yesterday by Andrew W. Smith, Jr., newly-appointed general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox.



Andrew W. Smith, Jr.

Martin Moskowitz was appointed executive assistant to Smith. Peter Levathes was named short subject sales manager to fill the post left vacant by the late William C. Clark. Clarence Hill, Smith's executive assistant when the latter was Eastern division sales manager, was appointed to the new post of supervisor of exchange operations.

Morris Caplan will be in charge of

(*Continued on page 3*)

Actors Equity Funds Now At $1,300,000

Actors' Equity Association is in a "better and stronger" position than ever before with surplus funds increased by $112,000, to $1,300,000, during the past fiscal year, Paul Dullzell, executive secretary-treasurer, told the 34th annual meeting of the group here yesterday. About 1,000 attended.

The session also concerned itself

(*Continued on page 3*)

$28,000,000 Less To US, UK Plans

LONDON, June 2.—The Treasury Department of the British Government is planning to reduce the motion picture mutual exchange deficiency existing between this country and the United States to $40,000,000 annually, it is reported by an authoritative source. Last year Britain paid America $68,000,000 in film rentals.

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, president of RKO, entrains from the West Coast Friday for New York.

•

ARTHUR SACHSON, Samuel Goldwyn general sales manager, is recuperating from an appendicitis operation performed Saturday at St. Joseph's Hospital, Rockaway, L. I., where he was taken after having been stricken in Detroit while on a business trip.

•

CARYL BARRETT, national chairman of the merchandising committee of the motion picture division of The March of Dimes, has left New York for a month's visit on the Coast.

•

BEN GOETZ, M-G-M production chief in Britain, who arrived here from England last week, is in Culver City.

•

GEORGE ROYSTER, Universal-International booker in Charlotte, N. C., is hospitalized at Memorial Hospital there.

•

TOM CONNORS failed to get away last night on his previously announced fishing trip to Lake o' the Woods.

•

MAURICE BESSY, French publisher of film magazines, is in Mexico City from Paris.

•

NAT LEVY, RKO Radio Eastern division manager, has returned here from Florida.

•

EDWARD ARNOLD has arrived here from Hollywood.

Ohio Admission Tax May Have 5% Limit

COLUMBUS, O., June 2.—Ohio's Senate taxation committee has voted to limit the admissions tax, if the state abandons its tax, to five per cent. The present state admissions tax is three per cent. The House-approved bill, which sets no limit for municipalities' levies, was referred to a subcommittee of the taxation committee. If repeal of the state tax is approved by the Senate, it would become effective Oct. 1.

The Senate also approved the bill, passed earlier by the House, to exempt trailers from censorship. The bill now goes to Gov. Herbert.

New SRO Salesman Opens Ohio Branch

CINCINNATI, June 2.—Edward Salzberg, formerly manager of Film Classics, has been named special sales representative for Selznick Releasing Organization here, and has established offices in the Keith Theatre Building.

Washer at Paramount

Ben Washer reported at Paramount yesterday to take over his new post as publicity manager at the home office. He formerly was publicity manager for Goldwyn Prod.

Bar Ass'n Panel to Study Crime Films

WASHINGTON, June 2.—SIMPP president Donald Nelson and Robert W. Chambers, head of the MPA's research division, will represent the industry at a meeting here on Wednesday to discuss the effect of excessive crime portrayals on juvenile delinquency.

The portrayal of lawyers, judges and court procedures in films, radio programs and comic strips will also be discussed at the conference, which is being sponsored by the committee on motion pictures, radio broadcasting and comic strips in relation to the administration of justice, of the American Bar Association.

Rex Carr to Manage Booking Combine

CINCINNATI, June 2.—Rex A. Carr has been appointed general manager of the Theatre Owners Corp., film-buying and booking combine for 44 theatres here. Formerly general manager of Manny Marcus Enterprises of Indianapolis, Carr replaces Irving Sochin, who resigned.

Louis Wiethe is president of Theatre Owners, which was formed in 1946 by Wiethe, Ralph Kinsler, Willis Vance, Frank Huss, Herman Hunt and Maurice Chase, but other members have since joined them.

Friends Will Honor Columbia's Evidon

MINNEAPOLIS, June 2.—More than 100 film and theatre friends are expected to attend a farewell dinner June 9 for Bill Evidon, city salesman for the Minneapolis Columbia exchange, who is being transferred to the company's Los Angeles office. The dinner will be held at the Nicollet Hotel, with Bill Elson, Lowell Kaplan, Walter Hoffman, Mary Lebedoff and Sid Lax heading the arrangements committee.

Film Classics Buys West Coast Exchange

SAN FRANCISCO, June 2.—Al Grubstick, formerly head of Film Classics exchange here, has sold it to the parent company.

Fred Abelson, formerly Universal representative in Minneapolis, has been appointed to manage the branch.

Film on O'Dwyer's Life

The life story of New York's Mayor William O'Dwyer will be brought to the screen by Marathon Pictures under the title of "The Pride of New York," and released nationally by Producers Releasing, it was announced by Harry H. Thomas, PRC president. Harry Brandt is chairman of the board of Marathon.

U-I Making 2 Here

Two Universal-International pictures go before cameras in New York City this week, with Mark Hellinger shooting "The Naked City," and Nunnally Johnson's "The Senator Was Indiscreet" also starting.

Mono. Canada Deal Still Hanging Fire

TORONTO, June 2.—There is no on-the-surface change here with respect to Canadian representation for Monogram, which has been held by Monogram Pictures of Canada Ltd., Toronto, headed by Oscar R. Hanson. The Canadian company is affiliated with J. Arthur Rank interests in the Dominion, as clearly indicated by the fact that Canadian Monogram is one of the numerous defendants in the lawsuit of Paul Nathanson's Empire-Universal-Films Ltd. and United World Pictures of Canada Ltd. over distribution rights on certain Hollywood films. This case will be heard at Toronto in the fall when a number of inside trade connections may be brought to light.

It is considered possible that Monogram in the United States is concerned over this legal action although Monogram product is not involved in the case, and is checking its Canadian contract relationship. There is no hint in Toronto about any prospective change for Monogram's distribution set-up in the Dominion because the product has been getting good play in first-run and subsequent situations. The local trade atmosphere is somewhat tense over the lawsuit development, however.

Broidy and Davis Confer

Negotiations between Steve Broidy, Monogram-Allied Artists president, and John W. Davis, managing director for J. Arthur Rank, for distribution in Canada by the Rank organization of Monogram-Allied Artists product, are "progressing," Broidy said here yesterday, indicating that a full announcement concerning the negotiations will be forthcoming this week.

$5,500,000 for 'Duel' at 599 Runs

National box-office gross for David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" for its first three weeks of exhibition was $5,500,000 at 599 engagements, announces the Selznick Releasing Organization.

Cincinnati Grosses Good

CINCINNATI, June 2. — Business theatrewise was not only good for picture houses here during the winter season, but local legitimate houses report the best season in several years. A total of 23 stage productions was presented, two more than in the preceding year, and, with one or two exceptions, business was considerably above average.

Services for Mrs. Yorke

LOS ANGELES, June 2.—Private funeral services were held here today for Mrs. Augusta Yorke, 47, wife of Gabe Yorke, Fox Theatres advertising executive, who died Friday at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital following an operation. Two children, Harvey and Mary, also survive.

Lester Zuker Heads 'U-I' in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, June 2.—Lester Zuker, who resigned as Columbia branch manager here last year to become special representative for the J. Arthur Rank interests, has been named Universal-International branch manager here. He succeeds Max Cohen, resigned, who has returned to Washington, D. C. Herbert Horstemeier, Universal office manager and head booker, also has resigned.

Montana Theatres Join PCCITO Unit

SEATTLE, June 2.—Independent exhibitors in Montana have voted to join the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, and have selected J. M. Suckstorff, of Sidney, and Clarence Severson, of Wolff Point, as trustees.

Republic Dividend

A regular 25-cent quarterly dividend on preferred stock, payable July 1 to stockholders of record on June 13, has been declared by Republic's board of directors.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
John MILLS • Valerie HOBSON
in J. Arthur Rank's
"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
Shirley Temple • Franchot Tone • Guy Madison
in Honeymoon

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st B'way Showing!
TOMMY & JIMMY DORSEY
Janet BLAIR
Paul Whiteman
'THE FABULOUS DORSEYS'
IN PERSON
LEO CARRILLO
THE BERRY BROS.
THE SMOOTHIES
ROSS & STONE
THE CHADWICKS

RAY MILLAND • TERESA WRIGHT
in "The Imperfect Lady"
A Paramount Picture
in Person BUDDY CLARK and the MODERNAIRES JAN MURRAY THE ACROMANIACS BOYD RAEBURN AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

28th WEEK!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE BEST FILM OF THE YEAR!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
ASTOR
B'WAY & 45th ST.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco. New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco. London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

M. P. Foundation

(*Continued from page* 1)

Seattle, all having yet to take direct organizational action. Delay is ascribed to local preoccupation.

When all 31 cities have committees, trustees and chairmen, Foundation headquarters in New York will set a date and place for a national trustees' organizational meeting at which plans will be laid for converting into tangi- ities the philanthropic principles l. up at the start in New Orleans last year.

Cities wherein organizational activity has been accomplished are as follows: Albany: Si Fabian, trustee; Saul J. Ullman, chairman; 15 committeemen. Atlanta: 17 committeemen elected, trustee and chairman to be elected shortly. Boston: M. J. Mullin, trustee; H. S. Stoneman, chairman; 34 committeemen. Charlotte: H. F. Kincey, trustee and chairman; 15 committeemen. Chicago: Arthur Schoenstadt, trustee; Edward G. Zorn, chairman; 17 committeemen.

Also: Dallas: John Rowley, chairman and trustee; Sol Sachs, co-chairman; 17 committeemen. Des Moines: A. H. Blank, trustee; Nathan Sandler, chairmen; 17 committeemen. Detroit: 11 committeemen elected, trustee and chairman to be elected shortly. Kansas City: J. A. Becker, trustee; Arthur Cole, chairman; 15 committeemen. Memphis: M. A. Lightman, Sr., trustee; Ed Sapinsley, chairman; 11 committeemen. Minneapolis: William Elson, trustee; Harold Field, chairman; 26 committeemen.

Also: Omaha: R. R. Livingston, trustee; D. V. McLucas, chairman; 17 committeemen. Philadelphia: Jay Emanuel, trustee; Martin Ellis, chairman; 17 committeemen. Pittsburgh: M. A. Silver, trustee; Morris A. Finkel, chairman; 18 committeemen. St. Louis: Fred Wehrenberg, trustee; Joseph C. Ansell, chairman; 15 committeemen. Washington: Carter Barron, trustee; John J. Payette, chairman; 17 committeemen.

Actors Equity

(*Continued from page* 1)

with the election of a slate of councilors to the union's board of governors, the results of which will be disclosed upon tabulation of the ballots, possibly today.

Meanwhile, Alfred Harding, director of public relations for the union, will appear before the House Ways and Means Committee in Washington today in an effort to have reduced the 20 per cent tax on legitimate and film theatres.

MITCHELL MAY, Jr.
CO., INC.
INSURANCE
•
Specializing
in requirements of the
Motion Picture Industry
75 Maiden Lane, New York
510 W. 6th St., Los Angeles

"The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer"

(*Continued from page* 1)

place, break in. With appearances gravely against him, Grant falls in with Miss Loy's plan for him to squire her young sister for so long as it may require to dissipate what she believes is a momentary infatuation, and from this agreement flows a sequence of hilariously amusing events. In the course of time, all of it immensely entertaining, Miss Temple comes to understand that Grant is not of her generation, and gravely gives him up. By this time Grant and Miss Loy, who have fallen in love but mutually resisted the tender emotion, are poles apart in their expressed opinions of each other and cannot get together until her uncle, a practical variety of psychiatrist, rigs matters so that they are thrown together in spite of themselves.

Like other successful comedies, this one plays far better than it reads. The basic story, which might be only mildly amusing in other handling, is made bright as a dollar and swift as a dollar in flight by the richly written dialogue, the brilliant acting of the entire cast, and the inspired timing which prevails throughout the unfoldment of the story. The Hollywood preview audience at the Pantages Theatre, which had just witnessed the same producer's other hit picture, "The Farmer's Daughter," had the time of its collective life enjoying the previewed attraction.

Sparkling support is provided the principals by Ray Collins, Harry Davenport, Johnny Sands, Don Beddoe, Lillian Randolph, Veda Ann Borg, Dan Tobin, Ransom Sherman, William Bakewell, Irving Bacon, Ian Bernard, Carol Hughes, William Hall and Gregory Gay.

Running time, 95 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

20th-Fox

(*Continued from page* 1)

statistics, Eddie Collins was named home office aide for the Southern, Western and Canadian divisions, while Jack Bloom will be home office aide for the Mid-East and Central divisions.



William C. Gehring

Smith said that the two new divisions will be the Canadian and the Yankee divisions, and that the increase in divisions was designed to bring top manpower of the sales force closer to operations in the field.

Ray Moon, former district manager in New York, will be sales manager of the Yankee division, while Sydney Samson, who had been Canadian district manager, was promoted to the post of Canadian sales manager.

No changes were made in the Western and Southern sales divisions, headed by Herman Wobber and Harry G. Ballance, respectively.

Jack Lorentz was appointed sales manager for the Central division, consisting of the Great Lakes district, Chicago, Milwaukee, Detroit, the Prairie district, Minneapolis, Omaha and Des Moines. Tom Gilliam, Chicago branch manager, was promoted to Great Lakes district manager, succeeding Lorentz. Joe Neger, Milwaukee branch manager, succeeds Gilliam as Chicago branch manager, while Joe Woodward, Kansas City salesman, moves to Neger's Milwaukee post.

C. E. Peppiatt will be sales manager of the Mideastern division, with supervision over the Atlantic district, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington, D. C., and the newly-named River district, consisting of Cincinnati, Cleveland and Indianapolis. Sam Gross, Philadelphia branch manager, was promoted to Atlantic district manager, succeeding Peppiatt, while Herb Gillis, Philadelphia salesman, was made Philadelphia branch manager.

Charles Kosko, Pittsburgh salesman, was named Buffalo branch manager, while William Graham, who had been filling the Buffalo spot temporarily, will become office manager at the Chicago exchange. Frank Carroll, former assistant to Smith, will be assistant to Moon, who will move to the home office. The other five sales managers will remain in the field.

Smith was a newspaper reporter before entering the industry in 1914. He worked at Pathe, Hodkinson, First National and Warner Brothers, and in 1935 became vice-president of the Vitagraph Corp. In 1936, upon leaving Vitagraph, he was appointed general sales manager of United Artists. In October, 1939, Smith joined RKO as Eastern division manager, and in June, 1942, went to 20th Century-Fox.

William C. Gehring, who was named assistant general sales manager, was educated at Pennsylvania State and entered the industry after Army service. He served in various Fox Film exchanges, and from 1929-1931, was Eastern division manager of Tiffany Productions, Inc. In 1931, he returned to Fox as branch manager in the Cincinnati exchange, became Chicago sales manager, and in 1937, was appointed Central sales manager. In 1941, Gehring was made Western sales manager.

Portola in Deal

SAN FRANCISCO, June 2. — Marc Gilbert and Alfred Kornblum of New York, and Sidney Pink, Paul Schreibman, and Alvin Baranov of Los Angeles have acquired the Portola Theatre, here. A 1,000 seat house, it now becomes a part of the Trans International circuit of Los Angeles, headed by Sidney Pink.

Gillespie Now Has 4

SEATTLE, June 2. — Another sale in the increasing number of theatre transfers in the Seattle area was announced by L. A. Gillespie who has sold his Caribou Theatre in Brewster to Jerome B. Davis. Gillespie, who last week sold his Chief Theatre in Tonasket to Harris Ulsh now controls only four houses.

Spokane House Sold

SEATTLE, June 2.—Lloyd Lamb and James Pike have sold their Rex Theatre in Spokane to Louise and A. P. Barstad, who will open the theatre under the name Nu-Rex.

N. Y. Theatres Boom

(*Continued from page* 1)

$91,000 at the Music Hall Thursday through Sunday, including record Memorial Day business, and is on its way to a $137,500 week; the opening week's 'take' was $134,000.

The Roxy played to record crowds on Friday which brought a record holiday income estimated at close to $32,000. The second and final week of Jack Benny's "in person" engagement and "Brasher Doubloon" should conclude with about $130,000, very prosperous; "Miracle on 34th Street" follows tomorrow.

"Carnegie Hall" is still good at the Winter Garden which looks for $29,000 in a fifth week. At the Park, the film, also in a fifth week, is slipping with $6,000 estimated.

Universal - International's reissue combination, "I Stole a Million" and "Magnificent Obsession," did even better than expected in an initial week at the Gotham, estimated at $15,000. Second week of "Framed" at the Globe appears at $20,000.

Warners' reissue of "The Sea Hawk" and "The Sea Wolf" got $18,000 on Friday through Sunday and the second and final week should hit $35,000, which is fair; "Cheyenne" will follow on Friday.

"Duel in the Sun" shows about $30,000 for a fourth and final week at the Capitol; "High Barbaree" runs next, to start on Thursday.

"The Patient Vanishes" collapsed as it started a second week at the Victoria; it was pulled Thursday evening to make way for "Jungle Book," which probably will do a fairly profitable $15,000 in a first week.

"Honeymoon" is weak in its third and final week at the Palace, on an estimated $16,500; it will be replaced on Saturday by "Woman on the Beach."

"The Web" will go into the Criterion tomorrow to succeed "Odd Man Out," which made an excellent showing. The final week of the latter, its sixth, is good at $19,000. "Gone with the Wind" will follow "The Web."

"Isle of the Dead" and "Body Snatchers," a gruesome twosome, are not likely to draw more than a poor $6,000 at the Rialto; "The Killers" and "Bad Man from Red Butte" will follow on Friday.

"Improper Lady" and Buddy Clark topping the stage bill are a fairly strong combination at the Paramount, where $60,000 is indicated for a second week. At the Rivoli, "The Other Love" probably will gross about $18,000, which is average business, in a third week. "Dishonored Lady" is still occupying the Broadway's screen; the second week's business is estimated at under $8,000. "The Best Years of Our Lives" is still strong at the Astor where the 28th week promises to bring in $33,000.

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Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 108 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 1947 TEN CENTS

Lasting Coast Labor Peace Held in Doubt

Casey Says Settlement of Strike Is Beyond Hope

HOLLYWOOD June 3. — Lasting settlement of the studio strike is impossible unless a complete change in attitudes of the principal union leaders involved comes about, and this is a remote possibility, according to Pat Casey, who recently resigned as labor relations director for the studios and is now serving in an advisory capacity.

Casey is now here, from New York, "to clear up some pending matters," and will return there in about two weeks. Shortly thereafter he will decide his future plans, he said.

The likelihood of resolving the jurisdictional issues is as slim as it was two years ago, he observed, expressing complete doubt that the international union presidents involved will arrive at any permanent means of averting further disputes.

Casey dismissed current pending

(*Continued on page 7*)

Monogram-AA Sales Meet July 18-20

HOLLYWOOD, June 3. — Monogram and Allied Artists franchise owners and exchange heads are among personnel who will attend the companies' sales convention which has been set for July 18 through July 20 at the Hotel Schroeder in Milwaukee, Steve Broidy, president of the sister-companies announced today.

Hear Bid for Re-trial Of Goldman Verdict

PHILADELPHIA, June 3. — Petitions by Warner Brothers and eight major distributors for rehearing of the $425,000 anti-trust verdict awarded William Goldman was argued today in the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here. The case was taken under advisement after a full day's hearing in which the distributors, represented by Bernard A. Segal, and Warner, represented by Judge Joseph Proskauer, maintained that Goldman had disproved his own case by failing to open his Erlanger Theatre after first-run films were made available to him.

William A. Gray, attorney for Goldman, claimed that the present situation is irrelevant to the case.

ATA Says It Will Not Be Dissolved

While a variety of factors has given rise to speculation within the trade that the American Theatres Association is losing ground and dissolution appears on the horizon, ATA principals discount this as being without foundation.

The organization's leaders here assert that its members' interests is as strong as ever and that dissatisfaction concerning any of its functions has yet to be heard.

ATA's advocates are still enthusiastically giving their support, one official commented, conceding, however, that the group is not without opponents.

Industry observers who claim they see ATA as being defunct within a few months point to continued postponement of an ATA convention, and the preoccupation of three top executives, Ted R. Gamble, board chairman, now engaged in the development of his newly-acquired Monarch Theatres; Si Fabian, president, concerned with operation of his circuit and involved in negotiations which might lead to his acquisition of United Artists, and Ned Shugrue, director of public information, now giving his time to promotion of the Department of Justice-sponsored Freedom Train.

Pattern 'Earth' on 'Jolson' Sales Lines

CHICAGO, June 3.—Columbia's new "Down to Earth" will be promoted and distributed much in the same manner as the company's "Jolson Story," probably as a special, delegates to the four-day sales convention were told at the opening session today in the Drake Hotel.

A. Montague, general sales manager, who is presiding at the meetings, placed high on the agenda a review of sales and liquidation of cur-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Gulf ATO, Miss. Unit To Discuss Merger

NEW ORLEANS, June 3. — Officers and directors of Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States will meet with the Mississippi Theatres Owners at the Hotel Biloxi, Miss., July 6 through July 8 to discuss consolidation of both organizations, it was announced following a meeting here today. Several Mississippi members have already become members of Allied, it was pointed out. The meeting, which was chaired by W. A. Prewitt, Jr., president, also established permanent headquarters here.

O'Shea Reported On Top Budget Sales

E. K. O'Shea, sales director for Liberty Films, recently acquired by Paramount, is reliably reported to have been assigned to an executive post at Paramount concentrating on the sale of top-budget pictures, directly under Charles M. Reagan, vice - president in charge of distribution. Neither O'Shea, now in Dallas, nor Reagan was available for comment yesterday.

Paramount to Form New Promotion Unit

A special publicity-exploitation unit to concentrate on the promotion of top-budget product is to be established by Paramount, it is understood, with Mort Nathanson, promotion head of Liberty Films, recently acquired by Paramount, as director. Before his association with Liberty, Nathanson was Eastern publicity director for Sam Goldwyn and press chief for Michael Todd, theatrical producer.

Nathanson will move to Paramount

(*Continued on page 5*)

Legitimate Theatres Demand a Tax Cut

WASHINGTON, June 3.—Play Producer Brock Pemberton today demanded that the House Ways and Means Committee give legitimate theatres a tax cut in proportion to any cut voted motion picture theatres.

Referring to ATA Board Chairman Ted Gamble's suggestion that all admissions under 40 cents be tax-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Zigmond Heads MPF In San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, June 3.—Jerry Zigmond of Paramount Theatres was elected today chairman of the Motion Picture Foundation committee here along with 16 committeemen. A national trustee and secretary will be elected at a meeting to be held next week. Members of the committee are: Neal East, Herman Wobber, Robert L. Lippert, Abe Blumenfeld, Floyd Billingsley, Irving Levin, Roy Cooper, Richard Spier, Ben Levin, Al Maas, Al Schmitken, Homer Tegtmeier, George Nasser, Verne Taylor, R. Harvey and Jay Golden.

Byrnes Will Sidestep Work On Legislation

Trade Practice Code Limited to Production

WASHINGTON, June 3.—James F. Byrnes, former Secretary of State, said today that he has an understanding with Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, that he will not appear before any legislative committee.

Byrnes said he has no idea what specific assignments he may be asked to undertake by the MPA, having talked to Johnston about his functions in general terms only.

In announcing Byrnes' engagement in Hollywood, Monday night, Johnston said the former Secretary would assist the industry in protecting the freedom of the screen, would represent the industry before the House Committee on Un-American Activities at the forthcoming hearing in Washington, and would aid in the development of a system of fair trade practices.

HOLLYWOOD, June 3.—The fair trade

(*Continued on page 5*)

Stockholders Elect RKO Board Today

DOVER, Del., June 3.—Reelection of Radio-Keith-Orpheum's nine directors will be the main order of business at the corporation's annual meeting of stockholders to be held here tomor-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Elect Arkansas ITO Executives Today

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., June 3.—Officers and a board of directors will be elected tomorrow by several hundred members of the Independent Theatre Owners of Arkansas who convened here today. Highlighting today's calendar were open forum discussions on theatre

(*Continued on page 7*)

3 Reviews Today

"The Brothers" and "Hollywood Barn Dance," page 5; "Too Many Winners," page 7. Key city reports on page 6.

Albert Warner Adds To Stock Holdings

PHILADELPHIA, June 3. — Activities were mild in film securities during the past month, according to a Securities and Exchange Commission report just released. At Warner Brothers, Albert Warner acquired an additional 4,000 shares of common stock, making his total holdings 434,000 shares. His trust reported holding 21,000 shares. Benjamin Kalmenson disposed of 4,000 shares. At Columbia, Jack Cohn acquired 1,218 shares of common while his trust acquired 666 additional shares. Abraham Montague bought 222 shares; Abraham Schneider, 324; Nate B. Spingold trust, 400 shares. Donald S. Stralem acquired 23 shares, making his total 968.

At Universal, Nathan J. Blumberg sold 500 shares leaving his holdings at 28,700. At Paramount executives made belated reports on their holdings. Y. Frank Freeman acquired 450 shares of common in a stock split-up, and the Rochelle Investment Corp. acquired 6,750 shares in the same split-up, bringing his Paramount total to 13,500 shares. Adolph Zukor and E. L. Weisl added 500 and 100 shares respectively in the split-up. Loew's Inc. continued buying stock in Loew's Boston Theatres, acquiring 107 shares which brings its total to 122,167 shares.

FTC Files Complaints Against Four Firms

WASHINGTON, June 3.—The Federal Trade Commission has charged four producer-distributors of advertising films with unfair methods of competition "tending to restrain trade and create monopoly."

The complaint was filed against Ray-Bell Films, Inc., St. Paul; Alexander Film Co., Colorado Springs; United Film Ad Service, Inc., Kansas City; and Motion Picture Advertising Service Co., Inc., of New Orleans.

The FTC charges that these firms entered into long-term exclusive contracts with exhibitors for screening advertising films. The Film companies received the exclusive privilege of showing their films on the screens of "a substantial number of exhibitors throughout the U. S.," and the definite tendency of this was to restrain trade, the FTC charges.

Committee to Aid US Film Program

WASHINGTON, June 3.—The formation of a committee of civic leaders to support legislation for the State Department's cultural and information program has been announced by Ralph McGill, editor of the *Atlanta Constitution*. Among the members is Julian Bryan, executive director of the International Film Foundation.

Stamp Group Curtails

The Cinema Stamp Collectors, here, will hold only one meeting a month during June, July and August. The next meeting will be held on June 25.

Personal Mention

GRADWELL L. SEARS, United Artists vice-president and sales head, has returned to New York from the Coast.

•

PHIL REISMAN, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, will be the guest of honor today at the first reception to be held in the American Center of Information at the Brussels Film Festival.

•

J. J. UNGER, United Artists general sales manager, has returned to New York from Chicago where he conferred with RUD LOHRENZ, midwest district manager.

•

BORIS MORROS, co-producer with William LeBaron of "Carnegie Hall," will sail today from England for New York aboard the S.S. *Queen Elizabeth*.

•

Y. FRANK FREEMAN, vice-president of the Paramount studio, is in New York from the Coast. He returns there Saturday.

•

LEON BRITTON, RKO Radio Far Eastern supervisor, has arrived in New York from his Singapore headquarters.

•

TOM J. CONNORS is scheduled to leave New York today for a vacation at Lake o' the Woods.

•

JACK SKIRBALL, independent producer with Universal-International, is in New York from the Coast.

•

LOUIS K. SIDNEY, M-G-M studio executive, is vacationing.

MAURICE BERGMAN, Eastern advertising and publicity director for Universal-International, will leave New York for the Coast on Friday.

•

OSCAR A. DOOB and JOHN MURPHY of Loew's, have returned to New York from Washington where they attended the House Ways and Means Committee's hearing on admission tax revision.

•

LEON BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, is attending the convention of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Arkansas at Little Rock.

•

WILLIAM KENYON, of Warners, and MRS. KENYON have arrived in New York by American Airlines from Hollywood to visit their son here.

•

SID GOLDSTEIN of the M-G-M publicity department here is recuperating from an appendectomy at Crown Heights Hospital, Brooklyn.

•

F. W. TIMS, managing director of J. Frank Brockliss, Ltd., of London, distributor of theatre equipment, has arrived in New York.

•

MITCHELL RAWSON of the M-G-M home office publicity department has returned from a two-week vacation.

•

I. J. HOFFMAN, Warner zone manager for New England, has returned to New Haven from New York.

•

I. A. EKERMAN, Quigley Publishing Co. representative in Brazil, has arrived here for a two-week stay.

Harriman Requests Fund Restoration

WASHINGTON, June 3. — Secretary of Commerce Harriman today called on the Senate to restore most of the funds denied the Commerce Department in the House appropriations bill. Several of the deepest house cuts were in agencies indirectly affecting the film industry.

Harriman singled out as especially in need of the full funds, the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, where he said the cuts would force closing of 40 of the present 78 field offices and substantially curtail the Commercial Intelligence Service. The Office of Technical Services, which analyzes former secret German technical and scientific developments, is eliminated entirely by the House, and the Bureau of the Census, where House cuts would "cripple the planned program" for gathering trade statistics.

Pollock in 'Collier's'

HOLLYWOOD, June 3.—Louis Pollock, writer at Columbia and former advertising-publicity director for Universal in New York, is the author of the short story, "Breakdown," in the current issue of *Collier's*. He also is the author of "Stork Bites Man," a forthcoming United Artists release.

Schreiber, Smith at Crime Films Panel

WASHINGTON, June 3.—Sidney Schreiber and Harold L. Smith, of MPA's New York office, along with Robert W. Chambers, MPA research division head, and Donald Nelson, SIMPP president, will attend a discussion of the relationship between crime portrayals in the films and juvenile delinquency, opening here tomorrow. A committee of the American Bar Association on motion pictures, radio broadcasting and comic strips is sponsoring the conference.

'IA' Pledges Support To House Probers

HOLLYWOOD, June 3.—Complete support of the IATSE has been pledged to the House Un-American Activities Committee by Roy Brewer, international representative here, who said: "The more thorough and accurate a job this committee does, the greater service they will be rendering to America and its ideals, to their Congressional responsibility and to Hollywood and the American motion picture industry."

Daylight Bill Killed

SACRAMENTO, June 3. — Assemblywoman Kathryn Niehouse's bill on Daylight Saving went down in defeat in a State Senate committee this week.

Newsreel Parade

THE air disasters highlight the current newsreel parade. Other items include the 13th birthday celebration of the Dionne Quints, American war-dead services overseas, and various sports. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 80—Aviation disasters. Memorial Day observed in Italy and France. President Truman returns to Capitol for big decisions. The Dionne Quintuplets are 13 years old. Sports: The Belmont Stakes, Indianapolis Speedway.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 278—Air tragedies shock nation. Thrills and spills in Speedway classic. Tribute to Yanks dead overseas. Dionne Quints have 13th birthday. Fastest man on two feet. Belmont Stakes.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 81—New life for "DP's." Canadian mill-owner aids 100 Polish girls. America's war dead remembered in Luxembourg. Nation probes worst air crashes. Belmont Stakes. Patton wins 100-yard dash. Auto racing classic.

RKO PATHE, No. 83—Air crashes shock nation. Dionne Quints are 13. One World Award to La Guardia. Normandy marks "D" Day. Indianapolis Speedway. Belmont Stakes.

UNIVERSAL, No. 44—Ninety-four die in air crashes. Anzio heroes are honored. Polish girls imported for factory work in Canada. Phalanx wins Belmont. Rose wins 500 mile auto race.

World Film Festival Opens in Brussels

BRUSSELS, May 29 (By Airmail).—The Brussels World Film Festival has opened at the Palais des Beaux-Arts with an official ceremony and the first showing of the Belgian film, "Le Fondateur," a biography of King Leopold I, founder of the present Belgian Royal Dynasty. The film is made up solely of photographs of documents, engravings, coins, etc.

The Association of Belgian Film Theatres directors plans to hold an International Film Trade Congress in Brussels June 16-25 in conjunction with the World Film Festival to be held throughout June. Matters on the agenda will include: taxes and royalties, and percentage pictures.

Wilcox Film Is Honored

LONDON, June 3.—Herbert Wilcox's production of "The Courtneys of Curzon Street," starring Anna Neagle and Michael Wilding, has been chosen by a board of British film experts to represent English films at the Brussels film exposition this month. The other film selected is J. Arthur Rank's "Great Expectations."

Enters Film Festival

"The Roosevelt Story," Tola production, will compete for the international film awards in the World Film Festival at the Beaux Arts Palace, Brussels, Belgium. It will be shown on June 14.

Set NAB Convention

WASHINGTON, June 3.—The 25th annual convention of the National Association of Broadcasters will be held in Convention Hall at Atlantic City Sept. 15-18.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



WHO IS CYNTHIA?

Walter Winchell said: "I fell in love with Cynthia." Hedda Hopper said it and so did Louella Parsons, and Jimmy Fidler said it on his nationwide broadcast. Everybody's saying it including Earl Wilson, Louis Sobol, Dorothy Kilgallen, Erskine Johnson, Sheilah Graham and many other nationally syndicated columnists whose names carry weight from Coast to Coast.

You too will say: "I fell in love with Cynthia" and so will your patrons because "Cynthia" is the joy of living. She is sweet young womanhood experiencing the first kiss, the first romance, the first heart-ache. The trade press says:

"Up front among season's hits." —**Boxoffice**

"An unusual film for wide and popular appeal." —**M. P. Herald**

"Blanket approval from family audiences. Word of mouth build-up will be reflected at box-office." —**Showmen's Trade Review**

"Homey quality promises well for box-office returns." —**Variety**

"Packs plenty of entertainment."—**The Exhibitor**

That vast American audience which packed theatres in big cities and small towns for "The Green Years" will recognize that in "Cynthia" M-G-M has again made a wonderful motion picture of real people, their joys and their troubles and their dreams. It is the first starring role for beautiful Elizabeth Taylor, the "National Velvet" girl, and her portrayal of "Cynthia" is something to take to your heart.

★

M-G-M's "CYNTHIA"—ELIZABETH TAYLOR, George Murphy, S. Z. Sakall, Mary Astor with Gene Lockhart, Spring Byington, James Lydon, Scotty Beckett • A Robert Z. Leonard Production • Screen Play by Harold Buchman and Charles Kaufman • Based on a Play by Vina Delmar • Directed by ROBERT Z. LEONARD • Produced by EDWIN H. KNOPF • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

Production on Coast Is Off Slightly, to 40

HOLLYWOOD, June 3.—The production index dipped slightly from 42 to 40, with four pictures going into shooting stages, and six to cutting rooms. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Buckaroo from Powder River", "The Lone Wolf in London", "Assigned to Treasury" (Kennedy-Buchman).

Shooting: "The Last Round-Up", "The Sea Hound", "The Double Take", "It Had to Be You", "The Prince of Thieves", "The Man from Colorado".

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: "A Texas Story", "Adventures of Casanova".

Enterprise

Shooting: "They Passed This Way".

M-G-M

Shooting: "If Winter Comes", "The Kissing Bandit", "Cass Timberlane", "Alias a Gentleman", "The Pirate", "Good News".

Paramount

Finished: "Big Town After Dark" (Pine-Thomas).

Shooting: "Dream Girl", "Whispering Smith".

RKO-Radio

Started: "I Remember Mama", with Irene Dunne, Barbara Bel Geddes, Philip Dorn, Sir Cedric Hardwicke; "Return of the Bad Men", with Randolph Scott, Robert Ryan, George (Gabby) Hayes, Ann Jeffries.

Shooting: "Memory of Love", "Mourning Becomes Electra", "The Bishop's Wife" (Goldwyn).

Republic

Shooting: "The Red Pony" (Feldman), "Driftwood", "On Old Spanish Trails".

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie".

Screen Guild

Shooting: "The Burning Cross" (Colmes).

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "The Invisible Wall" (Wurtzel).

Started: "Gentleman's Agreement", with Gregory Peck, Dorothy McGuire, John Garfield, Celeste Holm, Anne Revere, Jane Wyatt, Dean Stockwell.

Shooting: "Nightmare Alley", "Off to Buffalo", "Foxes of Harrow".

United Artists

Started: "Sleep, My Love", with Claudette Colbert, Robert Cummings, Don Ameche, Rita Johnson.

Shooting: "The Time of Your Life" (Cagney), "Intrigue" (Bischoff).

Universal-International

Shooting: "Ride the Pink Horse", "Wistful Widow of Wagon Gap", "The Exile".

Warners

Finished: "Whiplash".

Shooting: "Silver River", "Treasure of the Sierra Madre", "Ever the Beginning".

Editorial Charges Film 'Backsliding'

PHILADELPHIA, June 3.—An editorial in the *Evening Bulletin* yesterday accused the motion picture industry of "notorious backsliding" since "Will Hays has passed from the scene" and "a successor performs his duties."

The editorial followed the appearance of a series of items by the *Bulletin* condemning the film "Duel in the Sun" which opened last Friday at the Fox and 24 neighborhood houses.

Referring to the critics' reports on "Duel," the editorial said that "their verdict is that after its sexiness has been modified by the exclusion of some of the most objectionable shots it's not much of a picture anyhow."

"The industry needs a reorientation," the editorial continues. "This might well extend to the advertising as well as the production of pictures. For example, an advertisement of a Philadelphia showing recently said: 'Its plain sexiness has seldom been approached by Hollywood'."

(Ed. Note: This advertising line has been used in connection with a foreign, independent picture.)

"The motion picture producers have a heavy responsibility to the public, and particularly to the adolescents to whom they cater, and they aren't meeting it. They have possession of a powerful instrument of education. If they don't voluntarily put it to better use they can reasonably expect growing demand for more stringent censorship. Self-imposed censorship is more in the American tradition."

"Duel" is doing standout business here despite poor reviews and the *Bulletin* campaign.

K. of C. Protests "Duel"

SEATTLE, June 3. — The Knights of Columbus here has protested the showing of "Duel in the Sun," now in its third week at the Fifth Avenue Theatre, to Bernard Reier, chairman of the Seattle Board of Censors. The organization termed the film "highly objectionable" and expressed its displeasure "towards any theatre making it a practice to show pictures flouting common decency."

Musicians to Hold UJA Luncheon Today

The musicians division of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York will hold a luncheon today at the Park Central Hotel here to launch its campaign in behalf of the appeal.

Richard McCann, president of the Associated Musicians of Greater New York, Local No. 802, is chairman of the division. Other leaders are Charles R. Iacci, chairman of the professional committee; Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the Paramount Theatre, chairman of the film committee, and William Feinberg, of General Artists Corp., chairman of the talent agency committee.

To Make 'Winchester 73'

HOLLYWOOD, June 3.—Fritz Lang's plans to make "Corruption" for independent release have been temporarily stymied and the producer-director has rearranged his shooting schedule to give the starting gun next to "Winchester 73", his forthcoming Diana Production for Universal-International release.

MPA Lends Weight To Rank Film Here

In a move said to be unusually significant in the light of current Anglo - American discussions of interchange of films, the Motion Picture Association has launched a campaign through its regular channels in behalf of J. Arthur Rank's "Great Expectations." Brochures, elaborate sets of stills, from the picture and special letters have gone to the numerous library, community and women's organizations, and other groups on the MPA Community Service list, all promoting the picture.

Seeks Full Hearing On FCC Legislation

WASHINGTON, June 3.—The White-Wolverton bill to reorganize the Federal Communications Commission will not satisfy broadcasters as it is now written, according to NAB president Justin Miller.

Miller did hail the bill, however, for offering broadcasters "a chance to place upon our statute books a law governing broadcasting which will recognize that the First Amendment guarantees term a radio as free from government abridgement as any other form of speech or press."

FCC Bill Hearings

WASHINGTON, June 3.—Hearings will start on June 17 on a bill to amend the Federal Communications Act, to split the commission into two components, and to make numerous changes in the act's administration, Senator White announced today. One provision would lift the present FCC limit of five television stations to any one company.

RCA Head Received $132,703 in 1946

PHILADELPHIA, June 3.—David Sarnoff, president of Radio Corp. of America, received $132,703 last year, according to the company's annual report as filed today with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Niles Trammell, NBC head and a director of RCA, was paid $90,460, and Frank M. Fulsom, executive vice-president in charge of the RCA Victor division, and a director of both RCA and NBC, received $75,460.

Stein Heads PRC-E-L West Coast Branch

SAN FRANCISCO, June 3. — Earl Stein has been appointed branch manager for the PRC-Eagle-Lion exchange here, replacing Ralph Clark.

Stein formerly was associated with RKO Radio in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Two Raise Ad Rates

HARTFORD, June 3. — The *Courant* and *Times*, two local dailies, have increased amusement advertising rates. The *Courant* (morning and Sunday) has increased rates from $2.10 to $2.52 per inch, daily; and $2.52 to $2.94 Sunday. The *Times* has gone up from $2.66 to $2.94 daily.

Sues 'U' Board on Stock Transactions

Universal stockholder Stephen Truncole yesterday filed suit in New York Federal Court against the company, directors and some former directors for an accounting of certain stock transactions which, he charges, were improper.

The action charges that Nate J. Blumberg, J. Cheever Cowdin, Matthew Fox, Charles Prutzman, V[illegible] Scully, J. H. Seidelman and [illegible] Work made a profit of $1,230,500 on option stock deals prior to February, 1945, and still hold options to acquire 148,285 additional shares of stock which, if exercised, could result in an additional profit to the group of $5,041,590.

Truncole contends that because the profits realized and expected to be realized are reportable under the Federal Income Tax law by each of the executives as compensation at a rate of 75 per cent, the transaction is a waste of corporate assets, because, he further alleges, the members all receive large salaries. Such profits, he holds, if accruing to the corporation itself, would be taxable at a rate of only 25 per cent as capital gains.

His charges against the board of directors allege that the board dominates the corporation and approved stock options.

Yesterday, Adolph Schimel, Universal home office counsel, declined to comment on the suit, explaining that he had not yet seen the complaint.

L. I. Services Held For Saul Abrams, 55

Services were held at Rockville Center, L. I., on Monday for Saul Abrams, 55, owner of the Nassau Theatre, Roosevelt, L. I., and brother of Leo Abrams of National Screen Service. Abrams, who entered the industry in 1913 as a salesman for the Big U Film Exchange in New York and operated the Nassau for the past 13 years, died last Sunday at the South Nassau Communities Hospital, Ocean Side, L. I. Interment was at Wellwood Cemetery, Farmingdale, L. I.

Other survivors include the widow, Mrs. Ada Abrams, and a son and daughter.

Myers Leaves Coast; To See Yates Here

HOLLYWOOD, June 3.—While denying reports here that he is seeking to set up a distribution outlet for Alexander Korda's British Lion in this country, Sidney Myers, assistant managing director of British Lion studios, who entrained today for New York en route to London, said he will confer with Herbert J. Yates, Republic Pictures president, on the East Coast. Myers will sail June 14, after having spent three weeks here.

Delay Examinations In Ascap-ITOA Case

Pre-trial examinations in the restraint-of-trade suit against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers by New York's Independent Theatre Owners Association, pending in Federal Court here, have been postponed for two weeks by agreement among attorneys for both parties. The taking of depositions originally was scheduled to begin here yesterday.

Para. Officials in Phone Promotion

Paramount's home office yesterday held a telephone discussion on the exploitation of new product simultaneously with all of the firm's special representatives in branch territories in this country and Canada.

Participating in the conference at this end were: Charles M. Reagan, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution; Curtis Mitchell, advertising-publicity-exploitation director, and Sid Mesibov, assistant exploitation manager.

The trio discussed with the company's representatives campaigns for "Dear Ruth," "The Perils of Pauline" and "Welcome Stranger."

Paramount Launches New Test Policy

The first of a series of "Perils of Pauline" engagements under Paramount's new policy of testing feature product in large and small situations throughout the country in advance of national release dates has been launched with a showing of the Technicolor film at the Paramount Theatre, Brattleboro, Vt., Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution, discloses.

A second test engagement of the picture got underway yesterday at the Community Theatre, Catskill, N. Y. Other engagements under the policy of testing at two separate spots in each branch territory, one a large situation and the other a small one, will follow.

Paramount to Form

(*Continued from page* 1)

at the end of this week, or shortly after, and will function directly under Curtis Mitchell, director of advertising-publicity, it is said.

Tentative plans call for stimulating public interest in the company's more important pictures from the day cameras start turning and sustaining campaigns through exhibition.

Actually all Liberty personnel have been on the Paramount payroll since the independent company's entire assets were acquired by Paramount.

Washer Luncheon Guest

Ben Washer, who began his duties as Paramount publicity manager at the home office Monday, was welcomed yesterday by the publicity, advertising and exploitation forces at a luncheon at Sardi's, here. Among those attending were: Curtis Mitchell, Stanley Shuford, Sid Mesibov, C. N. Odell, Paul Ackerman, D. John Phillips, Aileen Brenon, Rex Taylor, George Harvey, Louis Pelegrine, Burt Champton, Ed Sullivan, Milt Mohr, Carl Clausen, Frances Simon, Peggy Fewer, Edith Stone, Charles Strobel and Edna Higgins.

Para. Exploiteers Meet

CHICAGO, June 3.—The promotional staff of Balaban and Katz will meet here on June 10-11 to map exploitation campaigns for forthcoming product with Sid Mesibov, Paramount home office exploitation manager in New York, and Marty Lewis, radio promotional manager of Paramount's studio in Hollywood.

Reviews

"The Brothers"

(*Gainsborough-General Film Distributors*)

London

DIRECTOR David Macdonald—maker of "Desert Victory" and "Burma Victory"—accepts the challenge delivered by author L. A. G. Strong's novel, "The Brothers", widely regarded as the best British novel of its year, telling a grim, relentless tale unrelentlessly of the primitive feuds and violence which infused the men of Scotland's lonely Western Isles 50 years ago. Clan hatreds and passions as stern, rude and violent as the mist-topped hills of Skye and its turbulent seas, marked the men of the Isles. Illicit whiskey-distilling was their staple industry; wild hates and murderous "justice" their inveterate habit, whose only curb was the grim displeasure of Holy Church.

In Strong's novel, the feud between two of the Island's families—the McFarishes and the Macraes—is set a-boiling when a young orphan, Mary, comes to be servant to the men of the Macraes. Head of that clan—Hector Macrae—has a pronounced addiction to the Ten Commandments and moral rectitude generally. But those persuassions do not motivate his elder son in whom the advent of Mary evokes ugly, sinister, lecherous craving. There is also the gay young son of the McFarishes to be reckoned with. For Willie McFarish, despite the stark inheritance of his breed, has a lively eye for the pretty maiden.

Tragedy clearly is indicated and Strong heaped on tragedy with a ready hand. David Macdonald doesn't evade the issue either; least of all when it comes to making one of those happy-ending concessions. He chooses the documentary rather than the dramatic method; has composed a piece whose backgrounds of those hills, skies, seas of Skye will delight the connoisseur of camera-work, but which also make an apt pictorial commentary to his grim tale.

Macdonald and producer Sydney Box likewise didn't bother much with star appeal. Patricia Roc—she plays the disturbing Mary of the piece—is the nearest approach to star material on view. For the rest the actors are mainly unknown young men, among whom Andrew Crawford, the gay McFarish, rates highest. But a word of praise is due, too, to James Woodburn for a quite admirable portrayal of the Island's priest.

"The Brothers" will just be given the go-by in bobby-soxing circles. But it's a challenge, probably a successful one, to the picture patron of intelligence.

Running time, 98 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

PETER BURNUP

"Hollywood Barn Dance"

(*Screen Guild Productions*)

Hollywood, June 3

FOR audiences who fancy the nostalgic and melancholy "geetar" music and ditties of cowboy bands, on radio, screen and discs, this one should provide full measure, running over, of ear entertainment, with its 18 song and band numbers in the "bury me not on the lone prairie" vein. Featuring Ernie Tubb and his Texas Troubadors, this talented little cowpoke orchestra of six members was long a popular favorite on the air over Southern broadcasting stations, as well as over some of the larger networks. With their many disk recordings they also garnered additional prestige.

On a slight thread of a story, which, however, does not neglect the proper pinches of drama, comedy and romance, is tied this generous helping of bucolic words and music. On a quest for $2,000 to rebuild their Texas village church, burned during one of their rehearsals, the six troubadors range clear to Hollywood, where they find fame—and the $2,000.

Besides playing himself on the screen, Ernie Tubb's band consists of Phil Arnold, Larry Reed, Red Herron and the Philharmonic Trio, with Earle Hodgins, Frank McGlynn, Anne Kundi, Lori Talbott and Helen Boyce in supporting roles. B. B. Ray directed from his own original story, adapted by Dorothea Knox Martin. Jack Schwarz produced.

Running time, 72 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, June 20.

W. J. McG.

Century Schedules 2nd Open Forum

Second in a series of open forums being held by Century Theatres to establish a closer relationship between the field force and home office will take place on June 10 at the Waldorf-Astoria, according to J. R. Springer, general theatre manager.

Attending the session will be department heads and district and theatre managers. It is expected that the forum will get under way at 10:15 A.M., with Fred J. Schwartz, vice-president, presiding.

Theatre Replacement

WASHINGTON, June 3. — Danville Enterprises, Inc., has received approval to build a $200,000 theatre in Lexington, Ky., to replace one destroyed by fire.

Newman Name Changed

KANSAS CITY, June 3.—The Newman Theatre here will change its name to the Paramount on June 17. M. D. Cohn, theatre manager, has arranged with the local cancer campaign committee to make the event a "cancer benefit."

Collier Is Appointed

BALTIMORE, June 3. — Governor Preston Lane, Jr., has appointed Rodney Collier, manager of the Stanley Theatre here as owner-representative member of the State Board of Examiners of Motion Picture Operators.

Paramount Outing Set

Paramount will hold its annual home office outing on June 25 at the New Longshore Country Club, Westport, Conn.

Byrnes' Role

(*Continued from page* 1)

practice code which James F. Byrnes will assist in developing as one of his major assignments for the MPA, will involve only the production end of the industry, an authoritative source said here today.

The extent of the code will not be determined until Eric Johnston, MPA president, discusses the matter further with Byrnes on his return to Washington from here in about two weeks. However, only the production end was contemplated when Johnston and Byrnes discussed the matter in Washington originally.

20th-Fox Retains Byrnes for Appeal

James F. Byrnes, former Secretary of State, now engaged in the practice of law in Washington, D. C., was retained about three weeks ago as counsel for 20th Century-Fox on the company's appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court in the Government anti-trust suit against the industry, the home office reported here yesterday.

The arrangement was made by Otto Koegel, 20th-Fox general counsel, and member of the New York law firm of Dwight, Harris, Koegel and Caskey, which has been counsel for the company throughout the anti-trust suit and which also will be active in the company's U. S. Supreme Court appeal.

Exhibitor Cresswell Fights Delinquency

KANSAS CITY, June 3. — Norris Cresswell, manager of the Glen Theatre, is co-chairman with E. B. Winter, Toronto banker, in preparing a project for assisting in a movement for overcoming juvenile delinquency that will cover the United States and Canada. The two were designated by the Supreme Council of the "Grotto," international group set up as an objective for boys.

Thompson's Drive-in Plans Get Underway

J. J. Thompson, former operator of the Cocalis circuit here, now president of Eastern Drive-in Corp., has plans for about seven drive-ins in and around New York and New Jersey. His attorney, Monroe Stein, discloses that Thompson is now operating a drive-in in Union, N. J., has another under construction in Morris County and has acquired a site for a third in Totowa.

Defeat Warden's Bill

ST. LOUIS, June 3. — Legislation requiring Missouri amusement places to employ fire wardens during all shows has been rejected in committee at Jefferson City. Theatre owners appeared against the proposed bill, explaining their present personnel was trained to carry out fire warden duties.

New Hollander Post

LOS ANGELES, June 3.—Harry Hollander, who has operated and booked a group of theatres in California for several years, has been appointed special sales representative by Monogram, working out of the local Los Angeles exchange, headed by Howard Stubbins.

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

PHILADELPHIA

"Duel in the Sun" at the Fox (also playing at 24 neighborhood houses) is rolling up the largest box-office gross to be reported here in some time, with an estimated $55,000 for the week. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 3-5:

DARK DELUSION (M-G-M)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $13,800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ARCADIA (900) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 9th week. Gross: $11,300. (Average at regular prices of 50c-94c: $6,600)

DISHONORED LADY (UA)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $21,000)

LOST HONEYMOON (E-L)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days. On stage, Tex Beneke and Glen Miller Orchestra. Gross: 6 days, $34,500. **DISHONORED LADY (UA).** Gross: 1 day, $2,500. (Average: $31,700)

DUEL IN THE SUN (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $55,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-94c: $25,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $24,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $9,500)

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (M-G-M)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,200)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $29,500)

CALCUTTA (Para.)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $23,400. (Average: $27,000)

FRAMED (Col.)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-50c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $12,700)

ATLANTA

"Duel in the Sun" is playing to a good house in its second week. Business generally is about average. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 4:

13 RUE MADELEINE (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $19,500. (Average: $19,000)

KINGS ROW (WB reissue)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,700)

HIT PARADE 1947 (Rep.)—ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c). Gross: $5,600. (Average: $6,300)

STEP BY STEP (RKO Radio) and WOMAN CHASES MAN (Film Classics)—CAPITAL (2,446) (12c-44c). Gross: $4,800. (Average: $5,200)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 2nd week on a holdover. Gross: $20,000. (Average at regular prices of 30c-50c: $14,000)

CHICAGO

Current box-office returns are a little spotty. "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "The Jolson Story," however, continue to hold their own, even after long runs. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 2-3:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 23rd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,000)

THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c). On stage: Sammy Kaye and Orchestra. Gross: $50.000. (Average: $59,000)

CALCUTTA (Para.)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (95c). Gross: $26,500. (Average: $16,000)

DILLINGER (Mono.)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Leon Navara and The Maxellos. Gross: $63,500. (Average: $40,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—PALACE (2,500) (95c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $26,000)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.20-$1.50). Gross: $60,000. (Average at regular prices: $30,000)

THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $25,500)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (Advanced prices: 95c-$1.20-$1.40-$1.80) 24th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average at regular admission price of 95c: $17,500)

CINCINNATI

Most grosses are registering average or better, somewhat of an improvement over recent weeks. The extended weekend holiday, with warm weather following several days of cold and almost constant rain, helped business. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 3-6:

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE THIRTEENTH HOUR (Col.) and TERROR TRAIL (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50) 4 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600)

PILOT X (Popular)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Gross: $1,100. (Average: $1,100)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M) — RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,000)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $7,500)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and THE DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND (UA)—RKO LYRIC (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

HONEYMOON (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000)

BALTIMORE

Pictures opening on a holiday, with benefit of holiday crowds and prices, are making a better showing than in recent weeks. The weekend business also took a spurt, and as a result, grosses generally are once again above normal. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 5:

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $14,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $14,000)

MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—STANLEY (3,000) (29c-37c-50c-58c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,500)

THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $17,500)

HONEYMOON (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-44c-56c). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,500)

RAMROD (UA)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c) 2nd week. Gross: $4,475. (Average: $5,500)

IVAN, THE TERRIBLE (Artkino)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-55c) 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000)

BUFFALO

There is a noticeable business pick-up here despite continuing rain which has plagued the area for a month. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 7:

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M) and LITTLE MISTER JIM (M-G-M)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,000)

CALCUTTA (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $18,000)

BOOM TOWN (M-G-M) and TOO MANY WINNERS (PRC)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 3rd week for "The Egg and I." Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,000)

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and THE GUILTY (Mono.)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Allied Artists) and MR. HEX (Mono.)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $16,000)

SALT LAKE CITY

In spite of stiff competition with a Mormon Centennial celebration, a "Macbeth" stage presentation starring Orson Welles, and the opening of many out-door facilities, first-runs are holding their own, with slightly-above to well-above average grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 5:

ONE MILLION B.C. (UA) and OF MICE AND MEN (Favorite Films)—CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $9,990. (Average: $7,800)

CHEYENNE (WB)—CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $13,900. (Average: $13,600)

HOME IN OKLAHOMA (Rep.) and YANKEE FAKIR (Rep.)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c). With vaudeville. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $3,850)

BEDELIA (Eagle-Lion) and IT'S A JOKE, SON (Eagle-Lion)—RIALTO (800) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $3,700)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (20th-Fox)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,900. (Average: $4,800)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,900)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,800. (Average: $12,300)

TORONTO

The rainy season finally came to an end for Toronto theatres, only two of which had holdovers for the week, the Eglinton and Tivoli, Famous Players' units, getting another and 11th week out of "The Jolson Story." Estimated receipts for the week ending June 5:

THE OVERLANDERS (U-I)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 11th week. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $7,700)

PURSUED (WB)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,300. (Average: $14,300)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $14,300. (Average: $13,800)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $14,800)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 11th week. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $9,500)

BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,900. (Average: $11,400)

THE OVERLANDERS (U-I)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,800)

13 Additional Films Rated by the Legion

Two of 13 additional pictures rated by the National Legion of Decency have been placed in Class A-I; they are: Monogram's "Song of the Wasteland," and Gloria Films' German-made "Matura-Reise." Classified A-II were: "The Corpse Came C.O.D.," Columbia; "Desperate," RKO Radio; "Possessed," Warners; "That's My Gal," Republic; "Too Many Winners," PRC; "Violence," Monogram; "Winter Wonderland," Republic.

The following were placed in B: "Little Miss Broadway," Columbia; "Miracle on 34th Street," 20th-Fox; "The Queen's Necklace," Siritzky International; "Woman on the Beach," RKO Radio.

Hot Weather Brings UK Business Slump

LONDON, June 3.—Sudden, unusual tropic weather has hit theatre business badly in all parts of Britain.

London's business during the present week, normally expected to be the year's best since the week precedes the running of the Epson Downs Derby, is even lower than that experienced during last winter's blizzards. Only three West End theatres are operating anywhere near normal, the Odeon, with "Take My Life," the Carlton, with "Duel in the Sun," and the Empire, with "The Yearling."

English Pictures on Increase in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, June 3.—Production here is getting a side lift—the making of films in English by American and English companies. Counting pictures already made, and those in production or about to enter production, 13 such films will be completed soon. That alone will make 1947 the greatest year for that phase of production of any of the 16 since the modern industry has flourished in Mexico.

Ban Teen-Age Pickets

HAWLEY, Minn., June 3.—Picketing of the Garrick Theatre for lower admission prices for teen-agers has been halted following city officials' decision that it is illegal to picket the house. A spokesman for the students said a boycott, however, will be continued until the theatre meets the demand for a lower price.

Stage Shows at Capitol

When Guy Lombardo and his Royal Canadians go into the Capitol Theatre here, tomorrow, it will mark the return of "in-person" shows, which were discontinued for the three-week run of "Duel in the Sun," ending tonight.

To Show M-G-M Short

WASHINGTON, June 3. — M-G-M's public service series short, "Give Us This Earth," will have a premiere showing here tomorrow before Government agriculture and food officials. The short, made in Mexico, deals with land reclamation and food production.

'Henry V' Returns Here

"Henry V" will return to New York on Friday, at the Broadway Theatre following a New York road-show run of 47 weeks. The new policy will be continuous showings at popular prices.

Nation to See Art Directors' Exhibit

A traveling exhibit of photographs, drawings and models of Hollywood production sets will be sponsored by the Association of Motion Picture Art Directors, and is slated to get underway this summer, it is reported by Urie McCleary, membership committee chairman of the association, who is in New York from Hollywood conferring with executives of the Museum of Modern Art where display facilities will be provided. It is intended to put the exhibit on display in all of the large cities, McCleary said.

McCleary, who has been an art director with M-G-M for the past 10 years, was in charge of the work on "The Hucksters," and in 1941 won an Academy Award for his set direction of "Blossoms in the Dust." The association, he said, has a 100 per cent membership of art directors in Hollywood and includes also some New York stage designers. Since its formation, eight years ago, McCleary explained, the association has brought many benefits to the previously unorganized art directors, including salary raises and more prominent recognition in terms of screen credits.

William Ferrari of the Hal Roach Studios, who won an Academy Award last year for his sets in "Gaslight," is president of the association, which has 150 members. Recently the association engaged the Henry C. Rogers public relations organization, Hollywood and New York, to assist in securing greater recognition for the profession, McCleary said.

RKO Stockholders

(*Continued from page* 1)

row. Candidates for re-election are: N. Peter Rathvon, Ned E. Depinet, J. Miller Walker, Harry M. Durning, Frederick L. Ehrman, L. Lawrence Green, L. Boyd Hatch, Floyd B. Odlum and George H. Shaw.

On Thursday the board of directors and officers of the company will meet in New York to elect officers, at which time the board is expected to declare stock dividends.

The company's present officers, all of whom are candidates for re-election, are: Rathvon, president; Depinet, executive vice-president; Malcolm Kingsberg, vice-president; Gordon E. Youngman, vice-president and general counsel; Walker, secretary; Garrett Van Wagner, comptroller; William H. Clark, treasurer; A. W. Dawson, and A. E. Reoch, assistant treasurers.

According to the notice of the annual meeting sent to stockholders, remuneration (accrual basis) paid by the corporation and subsidiaries in 1946 to officers was as follows: Rathvon, $104,540; Depinet, $105,010; Kingsberg, $71,260; Youngman, $37,186; Walker, $29,511; Van Wagner, $23,704; Clark, $23,804; Dawson, $23,884, and Reoch, $22,049.

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Review

"Too Many Winners"

(*Producers Releasing Corp.*)

LATEST in PRC's current series dealing with the adventures of private detective Michael Shayne, "Too Many Winners" is no better or worse than its predecessors. William Beaudine, directing from producer John Sutherland's screenplay, based on original characters and a story by Brett Halliday, puts the usual amount of emphasis on physical action. Hugh Beaumont again portrays Shayne with acceptable grace, heading a cast which also includes Trudy Marshall, Ralph Dunn, Claire Carleton, Charles Mitchell, John Hamilton and others.

Beaumont, about to leave on a vacation with his secretary-sweetheart, Miss Marshall, is persuaded by a race track owner to forego the trip and ferret out the perpetrators in a parimutuel ticket counterfeiting racket. Before long a young lady, who offers Beaumont information, is killed. Meanwhile, the police are inclined to suspect the detective of both crimes. In characteristic fashion, however, Beaumont comes through with the right answers to all questions which studded the proceedings, and finally goes off on the vacation with Miss Marshall who, up to that point, spent most of her time fretting and raging over his failure to keep their vacation appointment.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, May 24.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Set Local Officers Weigh Producers' Bid

HOLLYWOOD, June 3.—Whether Set Decorators' Local No. 1421 will resume negotiations next Monday with the labor committee representing the major producers will be determined by the union's executive board at a special meeting here tonight. Negotiations were broken off on May 22 when the producers' representatives revealed that the IATSE had petitioned the National Labor Relations Board in its quest for jurisdiction over two classifications claimed by Local 1421.

In response to a wire from the local seeking a meeting today, the producers reiterated their position on holding up discussions focusing on the two classifications, but volunteered to meet next Monday.

Pat Casey on Labor

(*Continued from page* 1)

legislation outlawing jurisdictional disputes as a means of securing labor peace, explaining that "political considerations" will, in his opinion, "take the teeth" out of any labor bill eventually enacted into law.

Meanwhile a five-man American Federation of Labor committee is now engaged in efforts to develop machinery intended to eliminate jurisdictional labor rows in the future. The group comprises: Richard Walsh, president of the International Alliance of Theatrical and Stage Employes; Lawrence P. Lindelof, Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers; Dan W. Tracy, Electrical Workers; Dan Tobin, International Teamsters, and Paul Dullzell, Associated Actors and Artistes of America.

The IATSE's attitude, as expressed by Walsh, is that the studio strike to all intents and purposes "is a dead issue," with the studios operating normally. "IA" has absorbed the work formerly handled by striking carpenters.

The Electrical Workers have returned to the studios and the painters are to take a vote this week on returning to their jobs.

Set Film for Canada

World Pictures, Ltd. of Toronto, and Brandon Films, Inc., New York, have made a distribution deal for "Native Land" for Canada, whereby the former will roadshow the film in key cities prior to general distribution. It features Paul Robeson.

Demand Tax Cut

(*Continued from page* 1)

exempt, Pemberton said: "We would regard this as highly discriminatory unless similar exemptions were granted to legitimate theatres—not on a 40 cent basis but on a percentage basis."

He suggested the percentage be based on the ratio of the 40 cent movie admission to the admission charged in first-run New York movie theatres, and admitted this might be as much as a one-third cut in taxes on legitimate theatres.

Pemberton was part of a five-man delegation appearing before the House group to urge a cut in legitimate theatre admission taxes. Other members of the delegation were James F. Reilly, executive director of the National Association of the Legitimate Theatre; Ilka Chase, representing Actors' Equity; Marc Connelly, for the Dramatists' Guild; and Thomas Murtha, for the IATSE.

All the witnesses declared that a tax cut was necessary to halt the slump in theatre attendance, and that unless tax relief were granted, many theatres would be forced out of business.

Arkansas ITO

(*Continued from page* 1)

concessions, cooperative advertising, theatre admissions, budgeted buying and the Motion Picture Foundation.

Speakers at tomorrow afternoon's session include Maurice Wolfe of Loew's and Leon Bamberger of RKO Radio, as well as L. M. Rice and Bob O'Donnell of Interstate Theatres, Dallas, and C. B. Akers of Griffith Theatres, Oklahoma City. The session will conclude tomorrow night with a dinner at which awards of merit and appreciation will be made, with the Right Rev. Msgr. James E. O'Connell, rector of St. John's seminary here, as principal speaker.

Relief from Taxes

MEXICO CITY, June 3.—The ruling by the National Supreme Court that engineers and other technicians who live abroad but serve companies established in Mexico need not pay the Mexican income tax on money they receive here for such services, is interpreted as including such professionals who are in the Mexican film industry.

Pattern 'Earth'

(*Continued from page* 1)

rent product, together with plans for the sale and liquidation of films for the coming year.

In addition to "Down to Earth" and "Jolson Story," delegates will examine the handling of "Dead Reckoning," "Johnny O'Clock," "The Guilt of Janet Ames" and "Framed," as well as the forthcoming "Assigned to Treasury," "The Mating of Millie McGonigle," "Her Husband's Affairs" and "It Had to Be You."

Another matter to be discussed will be plans for presenting "The Jolson Story" in "encore engagements" around the country, similar to the one now in the New York territory. Already plans have been made to reopen the film in Baltimore, at the Hippodrome or Town. Other territories which are replaying the musical first-run, with subsequent run bookings indicated, include Lawrence, Mass., at the Modern, and Wheeling, W. Va., at the Virginia.

In addition to the general meeting, part of the four-day gathering will be devoted to individual meetings between branch and district managers and home office representatives.

Eight for Columbia From Gene Autry

Eight musical Westerns starring Gene Autry, first of which is to be "The Last Round-Up," a $500,000 film will be offered by Columbia during the next two years. The other seven, three for this year and four for next, will all be in color, with budgets ranging up to $1,000,000. Montague emphasized that the eight will be sold individually, after they are made available for screening.

All will be produced by Autry Productions, of which Armand Schaefer is president and Mitchel Hamilburg is vice-president.

The films will in no way constitute a series, it was said.

Set 'Song of Love'

M-G-M's "Song of Love" will be shown in all exchange areas to exhibitors on June 17. "The Hucksters," previously scheduled to be shown on that date, has been set back to June 26.



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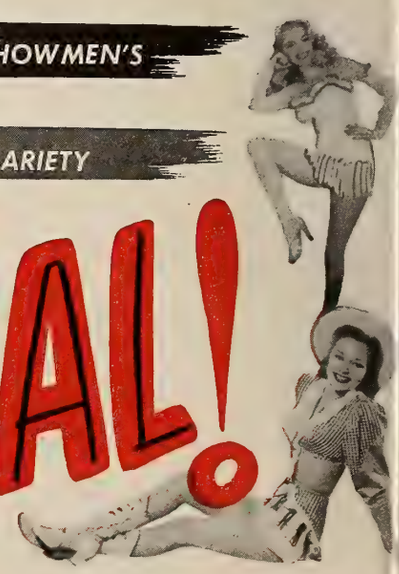
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Code Cited by Washington Legal Parley

'Boomerang' Also Wins Bar Group's Tribute

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, June 4.—The industry Production Code came in for high praise today at a meeting of representatives from motion pictures, radio, comics and the American Bar Association.

Called by the Bar Association to discuss the problem of crime in this country as affected by crime and law portrayal in the three media, conferees lauded the picture "Boomerang" for its "dignified, outstanding portrayal of a district attorney."

Today's exploratory meeting centered discussion around the cooperation of the three media in improving the administration of justice and reducing juvenile and adolescent crime. "No indictment was made," spokesmen reported. "It was purely a meeting for friendly analysis."

After correspondence with repre-

(*Continued on page 3*)

RKO Board Reset; Elect Officers Today

DOVER, Del., June 4.—Radio-Keith-Orpheum's board of nine directors were all reelected today at the annual stockholders' meeting. Renamed were N. Peter Rathvon, Ned E. Depinet, J. Miller Walker, Harry M. Durning, Frederick L. Ehrman, L. Lawrence Green, L. Boyd Hatch, Floyd B. Odlum and George H. Shaw.

Tomorrow, in New York, the board will meet for the annual election of officers, all present officers being can-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Elect Savage Head Of Arkansas ITO

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., June 4.—E. W. Savage of Booneville has been elected president of the Independent Theatre Owners of Arkansas, now in convention here. He succeeds C. C. Mundo of Little Rock, who automatically becomes chairman of the board of the Association.

(*Continued on page 3*)

Drop Plan for 'Health Week'

Plans to promote a single annual campaign for collections from theatre patrons during a "Health Week" to aid several charitable organizations, have been suspended by the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, New York, a spokesman disclosed here yesterday. Lack of interest on the part of other theatre groups was given as the reason.

While described as being held in abeyance, there has been no determination made whether attempts will be made later to resurrect the contemplated program, which originally was intended to be effected on a national scope, but subsequently was confined to local consideration.

Meanwhile, the New York group has launched a campaign to stamp out the growing menace of juveniles—presumably — exploding fire-crackers

(*Continued on page 3*)

5% Admission Tax Looms in Chicago

CHICAGO, June 4.—A five per cent admission tax applying to all theatres and sporting events and acceleration in efforts to effect immediate city economies were highlighted today in a five-point plan advanced by Mayor Kennelly's tax committee. This proposal marks the revival of a similar plan which was under consideration last year.

James S. Cunningham, president of the Civic Federation, and chairman of the Mayor's Citizen's Revenue Com-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Censorship, Tax Bills Die as Conn. Session Adjourns

HARTFORD, June 4.—The Connecticut legislature adjourned last night without enacting an admission tax, the proposed bill for state censorship, or any other measure injurious to the industry in the state.

A state sales tax was enacted but it does not apply either to admissions or film rentals. Bills requiring licensed boiler and elevator operators and all other featherbedding measures either died in committee or were defeated.

A measure for state aid to towns to finance school motion picture activities was not enacted.

A bill sponsored by the MPTO of Connecticut, liberalizing regulations governing admission of juveniles to theatres was passed. The measure permits children of 14 to attend theatres unaccompanied by an adult up to

(*Continued on page 6*)

25% Wage Increase For 'IA' Cameramen

Wage increases, estimated at more than 25 per cent, and retroactive for almost a year, have been granted to Local No. 644, International (Eastern) Photographers of the Motion Picture Industry, IATSE. About 100 cameramen in 15 states covered by the local are affected. The increases went into effect this week. Negotiations took place under a wage-reopening clause of the existing five-year contract.

Pat Casey, who recently resigned

(*Continued on page 6*)

"Bob, Son of Battle"

[*20th Century-Fox*]—Entertainment for All

IN "Bob, Son of Battle," 20th Century-Fox has a picture of quality and warmth that should amply reward showmen for giving it the special attention it merits. The story of a dog, it also becomes the moving story of people as it ranges with ease over a wide gamut of human emotion. Based on the lovable story of Alfred Ollivant, it will prove a delightful experience to the youngsters and a joy to patrons of all ages.

Costly in mounting, the lush, green country of Scotland is the locale, all brought out with the vivid strokes of Technicolor. Two primary threads run through the plot. One is the tale of a boy, Lon McCallister, in constant emotional conflict with his father, a self-infatuated, whisky-guzzling rogue, played by Edmund Gwenn, who, exhibitors will remember, scored so impressively in "Miracle on 34th Street." The other is the excitement and drama that surrounds the annual sheep dog contest.

Whipped once too ofted, McCallister runs off to the home of a nearby neighbor, Reginald Owen, where he falls deeply in love with his daugh-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Monogram Out to Cut Labor Costs on 'B's

Broidy To Seek Unions' Cooperation in Program

In what is believed to constitute an unprecendented move in Hollywood labor relations, Monogram president Steve Broidy will exert efforts to have studio unions give "special consideration" to the production of low-budget product by way of lowered wages and other items.



Steve Broidy

Broidy said here yesterday that all Monogram 'B' film production has been suspended because of "prohibitive" labor costs and will not be resumed until studio unions make

(*Continued on page 6*)

Monogram Plans 54 During 1947-'48

A minimum of 32 features, 16 Westerns and six top-budget Allied Artists productions are planned by Monogram-AA for the 1947-'48 season, Steve Broidy, president, disclosed here yesterday. Broidy said he believes the market can absorb a greatly increased number of new pictures and it is his intention to accelerate production so long as labor conditions allow.

The 1947-48 program, it is presumed, contains some "B" pictures.

(*Continued on page 6*)

Walsh, O'Brien in Exchange Accord

Basic agreement on the interchange of American and British industry technicians has been reached between Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, and Tom O'Brien, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Em-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, Universal board chairman, returned to New York from the Coast by plane yesterday.

•

SID KRAMER, assistant to HARRY MICHALSON, RKO Radio short subjects sales chief, has been awarded the U. S. Navy Department's "Certificate of Appreciation" for "meritorious personal service during World War II."

•

NORMAN ROBBINS, son of HERMAN ROBBINS, National Screen Service president, is father of ANDREW BRUCE ROBBINS, who arrived Decoration Day, making HERMAN five times a grandfather. No. 5 is the first boy.

•

LEWIS J. LIESER, PRC branch manager in Buffalo, is honeymooning in New York with his bride, the former JEANETTE BERLINER, Buffalo office manager for Universal Pictures.

•

CHARLES PREVIN, director of music at Radio City Music Hall, here, has been awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Music by Ithaca College, Ithaca, N. Y.

•

ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, New York studio representative of Universal-International, returns from the Coast the end of this week.

•

RUSSELL HOLMAN, Paramount Eastern production head, returned to New York by plane yesterday from Europe.

•

SAM MARX, M-G-M producer, will visit New York from the Coast the latter part of this month for a vacation.

•

HANK PORTER, of the Walt Disney production department, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

IKE and HARRY KATZ, Kay Film Exchange officials, have returned to Atlanta from New York.

•

SAM SEIDELMAN, PRC foreign manager, left New York for Hollywood yesterday for a week's stay.

•

WALTER L. TITUS, JR., Republic Southern division manager, is in Dallas from New York.

•

JOHN FORD, producer director, will arrive in New York Saturday for a five-day stay.

•

PAUL MACNAMARA, Vanguard's advertising-publicity director, is here from the Coast.

•

LOUIS FROHLICH, Columbia counsel, will return here tomorrow from Washington.

•

JULES LEVEY, United Artists producer, is in Washington from New York.

•

EDWARD BUZZELL, M-G-M director, has arrived here from Culver City.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

TOM Connors' decision to exercise an option under which he withdrew as vice-president in charge of 20th Century-Fox distribution at $104,000 a year for an advisory post at half that amount was entirely of his own making. While he held such an option under the original deal whereby the late S. R. Kent brought him into 20th Century-Fox as his assistant in '42, the company also held an option on Connors' services as sales chief for a second five-year period at $156,000 annually.

Connors determined to implement his option first, not because of dissatisfaction over salary but because he had tied his vision to '52 when he would be 59 and when complete retirement from the rigors of the battle might be something to contemplate in all seriousness. Therefore, he was more interested in what the period from '52 on held in prospect than the five years from '47 to '52.

Whatever this might have been and on what basis turns out to be irrelevant in the light of an inability of Connors to effect an understanding along such lines with Spyros Skouras. Connors subsequently concluded it was his own best interest to accept the advisory post at less compensation. The existing tax structure was an influence.

■

At 54, it seems illogical to assume Connors intends to, or will want to, continue under conditions which will give him nominal duties, at best. He came to 20th Century-Fox from Metro where his experience was widespread, but not national. In the five years of his now relinquished post, he has broadened that experience to embrace the entire country as an executive charged with the merchandising and dollar potential of a long line of high-powered and expensive product. The war years and what they brought served him in good stead, of course, but there can be no question that Connors' tenure of office at 20th-Fox has matured him into one of the topline specialists in a limited field.

It appears quite obvious, moreover, that he will want to go forward on the level which he has been enjoying and that, under stipulations which he deems required for his future, he will be in the active running. Connors is an important piece of manpower. In all likelihood, he will not be unattached for long.

■ ■

The Washington *Star* spoke its editorial mind recently in rejoinder to "Culture and Life," Soviet periodical which charged, among other matters, that Hollywood was sublimating its profit motive to "capitalistic propaganda" on directive from the State Department as well as the heads of the industry. A scattered excerpt from the *Star* is worth contemplating:

"Hollywood, of course, is a private enterprise and not the tool of a propaganda-demanding government. It has many faults, but it knows from experience that the vast majority of moviegoers—here and abroad—do not like to pay out their good money for anything but entertainment. If well acted and wrapped up in a reasonably interesting story, a measure of ideological stuff will be acceptable to them. On the whole, however, they prefer productions—tearful or gay—that tends to carry them out of themselves for the few hours they spend in the dark observing the ups and downs of fabulous creatures acting out every emotion from A to Z. . . . The whole business may distort or sweeten reality, but that is the way most of us want it."

■ ■

It cannot be confirmed. It may never be. But the bird whispers that the five major circuits will make J. Arthur Rank far happier and less insistent in the next year by giving his British product playing time amounting to about $12,000,000. According to percentage tables accepted by representative executives and never challenged, the five circuits represent approximately 55 per cent of the national distributor take. On a straight mathematical approach and always barring the unforeseen, therefore Rank stands to gross about $22,000,000 nationally in these next dozen months.

You'd be positively startled to know what a staggering increase this would represent over his current slice of the American market. Positively startled.

■ ■

Its deal with members of National Film Carriers—physical distribution and service only—is costing Selznick Releasing Organization about one-fifth of what it might have been through the regularly constituted distributing channels. A man who ought to know maintains this.

■ ■

IT AIN'T HAY DEPARTMENT: "Duel in the Sun" has rolled up a theatre gross of almost $6,000,000 out of 610 to 615 dates. On 60-40 terms, David O. Selznick's end is about $3,600,000 in a handful of weeks.

There's no business like show business.

Mitchell Names 3 to Paramount Staff

William W. Johnston, Morton Nathanson and Bert Ennis have been named "executive publicists" of Paramount by Curtis Mitchell, advertising-publicity director.

The appointments are in line with Mitchell's plan for assignments to an individual picture to conceive, initiate, develop, plant and coordinate promotional campaigns for top budget productions, from the start of shooting through national release date, a plan that was disclosed here yesterday.

Johnston is a former Bob Hope press representative, and is now at the home office working on the campaign for "The Perils of Pauline." Nathanson, recently special representative for Liberty Films, will start Monday on Hal Wallis's "Desert Fury." Ennis, who will also start Monday, will assist Stanley Shuford, Paramount advertising manager. Ennis is a pioneer in film advertising, exploitation and publicity.

New Southern Unit Will Produce Six

CHARLOTTE, June 4.—Francis J. White, owner of the Charlotte branch of Screen Guild Productions, has been named secretary-treasurer of Western Adventures Productions Corp., which has been organized to produce.

The new firm has already signed Paul Willett to produce six pictures in San Antonio, the first to go before cameras about July 1, and be released by early fall.

Testimonial for Diamond and Koff

PHILADELPHIA, June 4.—A testimonial luncheon honoring Sam Diamond and Mel Koff will be given by the local Motion Picture Associates and Variety Club on Monday, June 16, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. Koff was recently made branch manager here of the Selznick Releasing Organization, and Sam Diamond is the new branch manager for PRC-Eagle-Lion Films.

Smith To Meet Press

A W. Smith, newly appointed general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, and William Gehring, new assistant general sales manager, will meet the press tomorrow in the company's home office, after which the two will be hosts at luncheon.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Oppose Copyrights On Artists Records

WASHINGTON, June 4.—Industry groups testified before a House Judiciary sub-committee today against a bill proposing to permit performing artists to copyright their phonograph recordings.

Louis Frohlich, counsel for ASCAP, told the committee that the copyright is a "sacred right reserved for the creative artists." Deems Taylor and Gene Buck also testified on behalf of ASCAP, Taylor pointing out that under the proposed bill, performers would be able to sue each other.

In a statement placed before the committee, Edwin P. Kilroe, chairman of the copyright committee of the motion Picture Association, said that the industry would be plagued by endless claims that its performers had imitated previous recorded performances. "These claims would be of a peculiarly embarrasing nature," Kilroe stated. "The passage of this bill would open up a new field of law in which there are no established principles to guide courts or lawyers."

Code Cited

(*Continued from page* 1)

sentatives who were at the meeting, Arthur Freund, chairman of the Bar Association's committee, will appoint a smaller committee to decide whether there is a definite problem in delinquency that must be faced and to recommend practical steps involving the participation of the three media in dealing with the problem.

The committee's report will be presented at another meeting to be called soon, and it is hoped this will be followed by a series of conferences.

Nelson Attends

The industry was represented by Donald Nelson and Lloyd Wright, president and counsel respectively of the SIMPP; Sidney Schreiber, Theodore Smith and Robert W. Chambers, general counsel, assistant to the vice-president and head of the research division respectively of the Motion Picture Association. Other media conferees were Justin Miller, head of the National Association of Broadcasters; Elisha Hanson, general counsel to the American Newspaper Publishers Association; B. M. McKelway, senior vice-president of the Society of Newspaper Editors, and representatives of the NBC, CBS and Mutual networks.

Elect E. W. Savage

(*Continued from page* 1)

Other officers elected this morning are B. F. Busby of Little Rock, vice-president; and Sam Kirby of Little Rock, re-elected secretary-treasurer.

Other members of the board are K. K. King, Searcy; W. D. Mitchell, Dumas; Terry Axley, England; Sidney Whatton, Warren; W. O. Sumpter, Lepanto; Charles F. Bonner, Pine Bluff, and O. G. Wren, Little Rock.

Plans for establishment of the $10,000,000 Motion Picture Foundation for the benefit of members of the industry were presented by E. V. Zorn, president of the Illinois Theatre Owners, and by John H. Rowley, Jr., of Dallas. The convention adjourns tonight folowing an awards presentation dinner.

24 Directors Named By Buffalo MPF

BUFFALO, June 4.—Twenty-four directors of the Motion Picture Foundation for the Buffalo area have been named by the regional organization's membership of 66, which on Monday elected George H. MacKenna, chairman; Max M. Yellen, trustee; Vincent R. McFaul, treasurer, and Elmer Lux, secretary, as previously reported.

The 24 directors follow: Vincent McFaul, Gus Basil, Myron Gross, Charles B. Taylor, Robert Hayman, Dalton Burgett, Mike Kallet, Elmer Lux, Robert Murphy, Max Yellen, George Gammel, Merritt A. Kyser, Tom Walsh, C. C. Young, Fred Schweppe, Matt Sullivan, William Dipson, Albert Ryde, Andy Gibson, George MacKenna, Lester Pollock, Sidney Grossman, Dave Miller and Harry Berinstein.

Para. Foreign Heads To Meet on Coast

Paramount International executives from New York, London and Paris will attend conferences with Henry Ginsberg, production executive, and other studio officials in Hollywood during the week of June 16.

The group, to be headed by George Weltner, president of Paramount International, will leave New York on June 13. Executives coming from abroad on the *S.S. Queen Elizabeth,* which left Southampton yesterday, are: J. E. Perkins, managing director for the British Isles; F. E. Hutchinson, managing director of sales, and Tony C. Reddin, director of theatres and advertising-publicity for Paramount Film Service, Ltd.; and John B. Nathan, division manager for Continental Europe, North Africa and the Middle East. Discussions will deal with international angles of future productions.

Paramount's Donahue Concludes Meeting

CHICAGO, June 4.—The two-day Paramount sales promotion meeting, held here under the guidance of division manager James Donohue, ended last night. The session included the showing of the 25-Year Paramount Club film, speeches by Donohue, district manager Allen Usher and branch manager J. H. Stevens. An award, the second in two years, was presented to Chicago salesman Louis Aurelio for outstanding sales work in 1946.

Immediately after the general meeting, which was attended by approximately 50, Donohue, Usher and Stevens met with members of the sales and booking staffs to discuss plans for the 1947 sales drive.

New Film Company

Robert Breen, Derrick Lynn Thomas, James Strook and Theodore R. Nathan have formed Independence Pictures, and opened New York offices, announcing at the same time the purchase of Darwin Teilhet's "The Fear Makers." Ben Hecht will write the screenplay.

Tell with Noel Meadow

P. W. Tell, formerly motion picture critic of *The Bronx* (N. Y.) *Home News,* has joined Noel Meadow Associates in an executive capacity. The firm specializes in film publicity.

'Miracle on 34th St.' Premiere at Roxy

"Miracle on 34th Street," 20th Century-Fox, came to 50th St. here yesterday for its world premiere at the Roxy, after a long-range exploitation campaign which promoted the film throughout the nation.

Manhattan Borough President Hugo E. Rogers bought the first ticket, while P. Raymond Haulenbeck, president of the 34th St.-Midtown Association, represented stores, banks, hotels and merchants in the Herald Square area.

The association sponsored lamppost decorations, heralds in store packages, banners on store fronts, and special display in Metropolitan newspaper advertising. Macy's, where much of the film's action takes place, has arranged for a series of theatre parties during a six-day period for its 12,000 employes.

Pushing the film on a national scale is the National Retailers Dry Goods Association, which sent endorsements to its 7,500 member stores. Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising and publicity for 20th Century-Fox; Rodney Bush, exploitation manager; Sid Blumenstock, assistant exploitation manager, and Stirling Silliphant, assistant to Schlaifer, toured the nation for the campaign.

3% Atlantic City Tax Starts June 15

ATLANTIC CITY, June 4.—Motion picture houses and all resort amusements will be assessed a three per cen tax staring June 15, following yesterday's primary, when voters here approved, by a two-to-one vote, a referendum to permit such a tax.

Taxed also will be all hotel rooms, liquor sales and tobacco. It is expected that the city will realize more than $1,000,000 a year from the tax, which money will be used to give the resort a general "face-lifting" and to halt beach erosion.

D. of C. Spared from 10% Admission Tax

WASHINGTON, June 4.—A new tax program for the District of Columbia, including a boost in the property tax rate, has been agreed on by the House and Senate District Committees and the District Commissioners. But the program does not include the two per cent general sales tax nor the 10 per cent admission tax requested originally by the commissioners. The property tax rate will be increased 25 cents over the present $1.75 per $100 of assessed valuation.

Eisler Hearing Is Put Off Until September

WASHINGTON, June 4.—The House Committee on un-American Activities today postponed the June 16 session that was slated to hear Hollywood composer Hans Eisler, brother of Gerhard Eisler who is now in court on charges of contempt of Congress.

Rep. J. Parnell Thomas said that Hans Eisler would be called before the House committee in mid-September, along with others of Hollywood who have been summoned to answer charges of Communist propaganda activities.

German Industry's Rebuilding Appears Practically Certain

WASHINGTON, June 4.—War Department officials reported today that unless Gen. Lucius Clay and Assistant Secretary of State Peterson decided to reverse U. S. Government policy completely, the German film industry will definitely be rehabilitated.

Since official State and War Department policy is based on rebuilding German industries wherever possible, there seems little likelihood that any exception would be made for the German film industry.

German films would then be exported to build up German import credits, War Department spokesmen said. The only possible retreat indicated in exporting films would be the number of nazi-made pictures sent out of the country.

Department officials also reported that Gen. Robert A. McClure's opinion of the clarifying release on the German film industry which the War Department withdrew from publication, pending the return of Peterson from Germany, was that "it stated the case exactly."

'Health Week' Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

in the auditoriums of member theatres. The aid of the New York Police Department has been sought to curb the pranksters, and city detectives have been assigned to watch the situation in the most troublesome neighborhoods to guard against potential audience riots, especially at children's matinees which is where most of the explosions appear to be occurring. Attempts will be made to round up sellers of the explosives. Part of the campaign includes the issuance of special trailers warning the youngsters of the dangers of the prank, the trailers to be shown in MNYTA members' theatres.

Ed Rugoff of the New York circuit of Rugoff and Becker has been elected to the board of directors of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, to fill the inactive board position of George Skouras, an MMPTA spokesman disclosed here yesterday.

New Montana Group Changes Its Name

LOS ANGELES, June 4.—The Montana Theatres Association, which recently voted 100 per cent to affiliate with the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, has changed its name to the Independent Theatre Owners of Montana.

With the Montana affiliation, PCCITO now represents eight states in the West.

F-C Will Roadshow Four Key Reissues

Film Classics will roadshow at least four top reissues this year, with "That Hamilton Woman," Alexander Korda production, as the initial release, the company asserts. It will have its Hollywood premiere on June 11 at the Canon Theatre, Beverly Hills, and later play a roadshow engagement on Broadway.

The ONE and ONLY
AL JOLSON



In His Celebrated Success!!!
"GO INTO YOUR DANCE"

A WARNER RE-RELEASE

WITH RUBY KEELER • GLENDA FARRELL
PATSY KELLY • PHIL REGAN
Directed by ARCHIE L. MAYO

2nd Swell Hit!!!
"Sing Me A Love Song"



A WARNER RE-RELEASE WITH **JAMES MELTON**

ZASU PITTS • ALLEN JENKINS
HUGH HERBERT • NAT PENDLETON
HOBART CAVANAUGH

Directed by RAY ENRIGHT • MUSIC AND LYRICS BY HARRY WARREN AND AL DUBIN

IN 150 TOP HOUSES JUNE 12TH!



SO RIGHT RIGHT NOW

$$$$ →→→ SO

IT'S RE-RELEASED RIGHT NOW BY WARNERS!!

Monogram, Labor

(*Continued from page* 1)

such production financially practical. He made it clear that no consideration on higher-cost films will be asked.

Broidy said he plans to approach studio unions next week, immediately upon his return to the Coast and will argue that labor expenses should be in some way commensurate with negative costs of pictures. He said that the company will ask cooperation in "the same manner in which we have cooperated with labor in the past."

He said that for the most part knowledge of the revenue to be brought in by most 'B' product is known in advance, that the exhibitor cannot be asked to increase his rental, and that production and distribution of lower-cost films thus make for a "manufacturing problem." He explained in effect that the costs are now exceeding returns, that the latter cannot reasonably go higher, hence expenses must be decreased.

Discussions Initiated

Isaac E. Chadwick, president of the Independent Motion Picture Producers and distributors, already has initiated discussions with the unions on the matter, Broidy said.

Broidy expressed the belief that if labor is disposed to lower its scales and relax certain other conditions for 'B' films a healthy economic situation would result both for labor and the producer. More pictures will be made, he reasoned, and the "slack that exists in labor itself would be taken up."

He sounded an optimistic note so far as business itself is concerned, reporting that Monogram's income this year is running 25 per cent over last year's, that revenue as of May 2 is 11 per cent above all of last year's. However, these increases will not be reflected in the current year's net income because of higher production costs, he said.

He added that "It Happened on 5th Avenue," made by Allied Artists, Monogram's wholly-owned subsidiary, will have a domestic gross in excess of $2,000,000, based on present earnings. Negative costs amounted to $1,216,000, Broidy said, and prints and other expenses brought the total to $1,500,000.

He said that Monogram is now releasing at the rate of two features a month and that the total for 1946-'47 will hit 32 features and 14 Westerns.

Touching on foreign distribution, Broidy revealed that the company's present franchise with Monogram of Canada, Ltd., a J. Arthur Rank affiliate, has been extended two years, beyond Sept. 1, 1947.

"Bob, Son of Battle"

(*Continued from page* 1)

ter, winsome Peggy Ann Garner. Meanwhile a local hunt goes on for a dog that has been making nightly raids on the sheep.

In a scene recorded with notable skill, the traditional sheep-herding tournament is shown, as the dogs, trim and graceful, round up their sheep, and put them through their paces. By a narrow margin, Gwenn loses the contest to his rival Owen. Then fate adds another blow. It is discovered that his dog is the nightly marauder. In a sequence that will be remembered by every dog lover, Gwenn brings an end to the life of his dog, later to learn that the animal had won the contest by a technicality.

Many other scenes of isolated eloquence stud the picture. The loose strands of the plot are neatly tied into a happy bow in the finale as father and son are reunited and wedding bells tinkle for the young people. Throughout the Robert Bassler production there permeates a charm, nostalgia and general wholesomeness which will result in lingering after-theatre discussions. With a well-trained cast presenting memorable cameos, Louis King has directed with care and sensitivity the well-devised screenplay of Jerome Cady.

Running time, 103 minutes. General audience classification. For July release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

25% Wage Increase

(*Continued from page* 1)

as labor relations director for Hollywood studios, represented the major producers.

First cameramen will now receive $87.50 daily and $325 weekly; additional cameramen, $62.50 daily and $240 weekly; still cameramen, $45 daily and $175 weekly, and assistant cameramen, $26.25 daily and $105 weekly. The increase is retroactive to July 1, 1946.

Chicago Rejects One

CHICAGO, June 4.—The censor board of the local police department viewed 94 releases, consisting of 408,000 feet of film, during May, in which there were 23 cuts, four films were classified for "adults only," and one Hygienic Production's "Mom and Dad," was rejected.

Monogram Plans

(*Continued from page* 1)

The company, having currently abandoned "B's" until wage scales are lowered by Hollywood unions for "B" productions, apparently expects to effect a readjustment and, therefore, continue the production of "B's." (See story in left-hand column).

Broidy said "we are in a position to take on four British pictures," but he declined to elaborate. He said the company intends to produce at least two features in England and he will leave here for London on Aug 1 on this matter and a survey of the Continent.

George Lessey, 67

George Lessey, stage and screen actor, died Tuesday while on a vacation in Westbrook, Conn.

Chicago 5% Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

mittee, said the City Council has power to levy such amusement tax without further action from Springfield.

He also said details for the tariff would have to be worked out but apparently the tax would bring the city at least $3,000,000 yearly.

Last year's plan called for two per cent on sporting events and up to three for theatre admission.

20th Hosts Carolinians

CHARLOTTE, June 4.—The office of 20th Century-Fox, Hi Holston, manager, was host to 50 theater owners and executives at a party in the Mecklenburg Hotel, after which the guests were given a special showing of "The Miracle on 34th Street," at the Plaza Theater.

RKO Board Renamed

(*Continued from page* 1)

didates for reelection, as follows: Rathvon, president; Depinet, executive vice-president; Malcolm Kingsberg, vice-president; Gordon E. Youngman, vice-president and general counsel; Walker, secretary; Garrett Van Wagner, comptroller; William H. Clark, treasurer; A. W. Dawson, and A. E. Reoch, assistant treasurers.

"5th Ave." Here June 11

Roy Del Ruth's "It Happened on Fifth Avenue", first Allied Artists' release, will open at the Rivoli Theatre, here, on Wednesday, June 11. On the previous evening, a benefit performance will be held for the New York committee of the American Cancer Society and the Damon Runyon Memorial Fund for Cancer Research.

Walsh, O'Brien

(*Continued from page* 1)

ployes, London, after almost two weeks of consultations here.

Ironing-out of final details of the agreement will take place after Walsh surveys labor conditions in British studios and theatres employing NATKE members. The "IA" president will accompany O'Brien when the latter leaves for England aboard the S.S. *Queen Elizabeth* next Wednesday and will remain abroad for two months. It is expected that Walsh will present the agreement to the IATSE executive board on his return.

Both officials had been anxious to arrive at a cooperative plan, whereby British and American technicians could work smoothly, without red-tape and friction, on an exchange basis. O'Brien was particularly eager to reach an agreement, since shortly before he sailed for this country, a protest strike by British technicians was called in one studio near London which had employed American technicians. O'Brien succeeded in ending the walkout in a few hours, but determined to find a solution with Walsh, which would avert future difficulties.

First-hand Study

O'Brien not only discussed the problem in detail with Walsh, but also made a first-hand study of conditions here. He visited theatres in New England, for example, and had an opportunity to examine conditions in New York.

O'Brien also passed on to Walsh his findings on jurisdictional problems in England, which Walsh will be able to study on the scene when he arrives in England.

It is also understood that O'Brien and Walsh discussed the possibility of Anglo-American participation in a federation of theatrical unions, which is now being considered by French, Czechoslovak and Russian theatrical unions. Walsh will meet with various trade union officials in England to discuss the exchange and other plans, but it is not known whether he will visit France or other countries on the Continent.

Conn. Legislature

(*Continued from page* 1)

six p.m. Thereafter, the former law prevails, except that the girls' age was lowered to 14 to conform with that of the boys.

A law was repealed which prohibited all corporations from deducting rent paid in arriving at net income for state tax purposes. This will result in substantial savings and removes a film rental tax potential. A law prohibiting employment of women after 10 p.m. and extending the hour to 1 a.m. and until 6 a.m. was repealed.

Herman M. Levy, executive secretary of the MPTO of Connecticut, represented the organization at the legislative sessions.

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Why the Railroads Can't Afford NOT to Modernize!

A Dollars-and-cents Example That Will Interest Travelers, Labor and Investors

For a long time the C&O has said that America's railroads must modernize their passenger equipment—or forfeit a great opportunity.

In print and in private we have lampooned the "rolling tenements" that still pass for sleeping cars. We have stumped for modern streamlined trains to replace tired, creaking old day coaches. And over and over we have stated that, given attractive equipment, and new comforts and services, railroads could open the door on a new era of travel . . . *The C&O is replacing every old sleeping car, day coach and diner on its main lines, with streamlined cars.*

But Is It Practical?

Standpatters in the industry are still shaking their heads. But lately more reasonable people have been asking, "How can the large-scale replacement of old trains be practical?"

They point out that several of our largest systems had serious deficits in 1946. And everyone knows that the railroads are caught between rocketing costs and lagging rates. "How," they ask, "can such an industry afford large outlays for new equipment?"

The answer is that the railroads can't afford *not* to make these outlays. And here is a dollars-and-cents example:

The Investment That Is Fast Returning Its Cost

Last August one of the C&O Lines, the Pere Marquette, installed two new daytime streamliners—the last word in passenger attractiveness.

The new trains have carried 86% *more passengers* than old trains carried over the same route during the same period of the previous year—when traffic was still swollen by war emergencies.



Which will it be—modernization or continued deficits?

Here is the proof of the pudding: In less than 4 years, at the present rate, the *increase in passenger receipts* will equal the total cost of the trains!

Modern equipment is not a luxury that only a few fortunate systems, like the C&O, can afford. Even a bankrupt railroad can borrow money today to buy such equipment at 2% interest.

Which Way Do We Go?

Railroads now face a critical choice: If pessimist thinking, old-line practices and Toonerville equipment continue to be tolerated, then regardless of rate relief, further deficits and bankruptcies are certain.

But, if, on the other hand, these liabilities are replaced by modern ideas and modern trains, our railroads can again be a credit to our country. They can also be a bulwark of our national defense, which, as every citizen knows, depends on a flourishing transportation system.

The Chesapeake and Ohio Lines

Terminal Tower, Cleveland 1, Ohio

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
May 10		(May Releases) HIGH BARBAREE Van Johnson June Allyson D—91 min. (Rev. 3/13/47)	HARD BOILED MAHONEY Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall C—63 mins. (616) (Rev. 4/10/47)		(Eagle-Lion) REPEAT PERFORMANCE Joan Leslie Louis Hayward	BELLS OF SAN ANGELO Roy Rogers O—71 min. (Rev. 5/26/47)	(Block 5) HONEYMOON Shirley Temple Franchot Tone C—74 mins. (721) (Rev. 4/16/47)	(May Releases) THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR Rex Harrison Gene Tierney D—104 min. (7157) (Rev. 5/16/47)		(May Releases) TIME OUT OF MIND Phyllis Calvert Robert Hutton Ella Raines D—88 mins. (Rev. 3/7/47)	
May 17	BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY Ron Randell D—70 mins.	UNDERCOVER MAISIE Ann Sothern Barry Nelson C—90 min. (Rev. 3/4/47)	SARGE GOES TO COLLEGE Alan Hale, Jr. D—63 min. (618) (Rev. 5/12/47)	BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—60 min. (Rev. 2/18/47)	TOO MANY WINNERS Hugh Beaumont D—61 min. (Rev. 6/4/47)	OREGON TRAIL SCOUTS O—58 min. (Rev. 5/26/47) THAT'S MY GAL (Color)	TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS Johnny Weismuller O—72 mins. (723) (Rev. 3/20/47)	HOMESTRETCH Cornel Wilde Maureen O'Hara D—96 min. (713) (Rev. 4/18/47)	(Hunt Stromberg) DISHONORED LADY Hedy Lamarr (Rev. 4/23/47)	(Reissue) MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION Irene Dunne Robert Taylor D—101 min. (2795)	
May 24	LAW OF THE CANYON Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O	(Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)	THE LAW COMES TO GUNSIGHT Johnny Mack Brown O—(672)		(Reissue) THE CORSICAN BROTHERS Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. INTERNATIONAL LADY George Brent	WINTER WONDERLAND Lynne Roberts Charles Drake D—71 min. (614) (Rev. 5/26/47)	BORN TO KILL Lawrence Tierney D—92 mins. (722) (Rev. 4/21/47)	JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG Richard Travis Micheline Cheirel D—64 min. (716) (Rev. 4/10/47)	(Hopalong Cassidy) DANGEROUS VENTURE William Boyd O—59 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)	(Reissue) 100 MEN AND A GIRL Deanna Durbin Leopold Stokowski D—84 min. (2796)	THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS Humphrey Bogart Barbara Stanwyck D—100 min. (621) (Rev 4/1/47)
May 31	THE MILLERSON CASE Warner Baxter PRAIRIE RAIDERS Charles Starrett	THE YEARLING Gregory Peck Jane Wyman D—134 min. (717) (Rev. 11/27/46)	SONG OF THE WASTELAND Jimmy Wakely O	CALCUTTA Alan Ladd Wm. Bendix D—83 min. (Rev. 4/16/47)	KILLER AT LARGE Robert Lowery O—63 min.				(Sam Coslow) COPACABANA Groucho Marx Carmen Miranda M—92 mins. (Rev. 5/22/47)		
June 1	THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. George Brent Joan Blondell D—87 min.				STEPCHILD Brenda Joyce D—70 min.	THAT'S MY MAN Don Ameche Catherine McLeod D—104 min. (Rev. 4/7/47)	BANJO Sharyn Moffett Una O'Connor D—67 mins. (725) (Rev. 4/21/47)	(June Releases) MOSS ROSE Peggy Cummins Victor Mature D—82 min. (717) (Rev. 5/22/47)			
June 8		(June Releases) LIVING IN A BIG WAY Gene Kelly Marie McDonald D—103 min. (Rev. 5/29/47)			PHILO VANCE RETURNS William Wright D—64 min. (Rev. 4/30/47)			MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET Maureen O'Hara John Payne D—96 min. (718) (Rev. 5/2/47)		(June Releases) ODD MAN OUT James Mason Robert Newton D—113 min. (Rev. 2/26/47)	CHEYENNE Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman O—100 mins. (622) (Rev. 4/23/47)
June 15	LITTLE MISS BROADWAY Jean Porter M—69 min.	DARK DELUSION James Craig Lucille Bremer D—90 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)	HIGH CONQUEST Anna Lee Warren Douglas D—83 mins. (Rev. 3/13/47)	DANGER STREET Jane Withers D—66 min. (4623) (Rev. 2/27/47)		WEB OF DANGER Adele Mara D SADDLE PALS Gene Autry O (Rev. 5/22/47)	(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)	(Reissue) WESTERN UNION Robert Young O—93 min. (Rev. 2/3/41)		THE WEB Edward O'Brien Ella Raines William Bendix D—91 min. (Rev. 5/22/47)	
June 22	SPORT OF KINGS Paul Campbell D—68 min. SWING THE WESTERN WAY Jack Leonard O			THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—80 min. (4614) (Rev. 4/28/47)	HEARTACHES Sheila Ryan D PIONEER JUSTICE Al La Rue O	NORTHWEST OUTPOST Nelson Eddy Ilona Massey D—91 min. (Rev. 5/12/47)	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)			THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay O—67 min. (Rev. 6/2/47)	
June 29	STRANGER FROM PONCA CITY Smiley Burnette O		KILROY WAS HERE Jackie Cooper Jackie Coogan D—(621)	THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Color) Betty Hutton John Lund C—96 min. (4615) (Rev. 5/26/47)			DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47)				THE UNFAITHFUL Ann Sheridan Lew Ayres D—109 min. (623) (Rev. 5/27/47)
July 6	KEEPER OF THE BEES Michael Duane Gloria Henry D	(July Releases) CYNTHIA Elizabeth Taylor Mary Astor D—98 min. (Rev. 5/20/47)					DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)				
July 13	GUNFIGHTERS (Color) O	FIESTA (Color) Esther Williams		DEAR RUTH Joan Caulfield William Holden C—95 min. (4616) (Rev. 5/28/47)			THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)				

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Dra— (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Da—*]

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 110 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 1947 TEN CENTS

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
23 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK, N. Y.
(6 COPIES)

Film Industry Fares Well in Legislation

12 Censor Bills Beaten; Only 2 Laws Harmful

WASHINGTON, June 5. — Thirty-two state legislatures have adjourned to date with legislation harmful to the industry passed in only two, according to John Bryson, legislative assistant to Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association.

Twelve more are still in session. Adjournment is expected by the end of the week in Texas, Nebraska, Michigan and Florida.

Numerous tax bills are still pending in the remaining legislatures, Bryson reported, but only one censorship bill. This is in committee in the Illinois legislature. Twelve censorship bills introduced in other legislatures have been defeated.

New York and New Jersey passed the two tax bills affecting the industry, with New York State empowering localities to impose admission taxes,

(*Continued on page 8*)

Name New Newsreel At Warner Meeting

"Warner News" has been designated as the official title of the newsreel which Warner Brothers will introduce in November, it was disclosed here yesterday at the opening day's session of a two-day meeting of district managers and home office executives being conducted by Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager.

At today's session, sales and distribution plans for the newsreel will

(*Continued on page 8*)

Rank Closes Deals With Rauland, B&H

CHICAGO, June 5.—J. Arthur Rank has completed arrangements with the E. N. Rauland Corp., here, for the manufacture of large-screen and other television equipment in England under Rauland patents, it was confirmed here today.

In addition, Rank also has completed an agreement with Bell and Howell of this city for the manufacture in England of various types of motion picture equipment under pat-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Fabian-U. A. Deal 'Cold'

The projected deal by which Si Fabian, Eastern circuit operator and president of American Theatres Association, would acquire United Artists for approximately $12,000,000 was described by an authoritative source yesterday as "cold" and virtually inactive.

While it was denied that negotiations have been called off or that the deal is dead, it was indicated strongly that negotiators have made no progress for some time and there is reason to doubt that it will be revived.

Presumably, the moribund state of

(*Continued on page 8*)

Freight Rate Rise Would Affect Films

In a petition which, if granted, would affect practically all branches of the industry, Railway Express has applied for official permission to increase all first and second class shipment rates by an average of 17 per cent. The shipping agency is extensively used by producers, distributors and equipment firms.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has scheduled a hearing on the application for Tuesday in Washington,

(*Continued on page 8*)

Moving Day for U-I Will Be in Mid-July

The moving vans which will transport Universal-International's home office furniture and fixtures to new company headquarters which are being constructed at the corner of Park Ave. and 57th Street, here, will back up before the RCA Building (present U-I location) for loading in mid-July, according to present indications, it was reported yesterday by U-I vice-president John J. O'Connor.

Moving was originally scheduled for May 1, but construction delays made postponement necessary.

Rathvon Reelected President of RKO

N. Peter Rathvon yesterday was reelected president of Radio-Keith-Orpheum.

Others reelected were: Floyd B. Odlum, chairman of the board; Ned E. Depinet, vice-chairman of the board and executive vice-president; Malcolm Kingsberg, vice-president; Gordon E. Youngman, vice-president and general counsel; John M. Whitaker, vice-president; J. Miller Walker, secretary; Garrett Van Wagner, comp-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Film Dividends Are Up 39% Over Last Year

Promise Steel Supply For New Equipment

St. Louis, June 5. — Every effort to provide steel for motion picture theatre equipment firms and other small steel users was promised by Senator Edward Martin, chairman of the Small Business Committee, to Ray Colvin, president of the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association.

Colvin, cooperating with the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers' Association, asked for more steel at reasonable prices for the motion picture equipment industry.

WASHINGTON, June 5.—Dividend payments by motion picture companies in the first quarter of 1947 were 39.1 per cent higher than payments during the first three months of 1946, the Department of Commerce reported here today.

Total payments reported for the first quarter of this year were $11,670,000, compared with $8,392,000 during the comparable 1946 period.

Although the present total is not as high as the $14,660,000 reported for the final quarter of 1946, Department officials point out that final quarter payments are usually the highest of the year, whereas first quarter payments are among the lowest.

Paramount and Warner Brothers were mainly responsible for the present increase. Paramount's payments doubled, going from $1,900,000 during

(*Continued on page 8*)

NFS's Physical Distribution Setup Expands

Servicing 5 Companies In Several Territories

Plans of National Film Service, Inc. for a nationwide system of physical distribution have been advanced with the establishment of carrier affiliates in all of the 31 exchange areas, and by its appointment to handle prints of PRC, Eagle-Lion, Republic and Monogram in several territories.

This week, NFS took over physical distribution in Philadelphia for the former two companies, and it is understood negotiations are proceeding to extend the servicing of exhibitors for both in cities additional to those already serviced in Washington, Kansas City and Des Moines, besides Philadelphia.

To date, National is also servicing Selznick Releasing Organization's "Duel in the Sun" in the 21 exchange areas in which the picture has been

(*Continued on page 8*)

No Decree Sales Methods for Col.

CHICAGO, June 5.—Columbia will continue its present sales policies without change, pending a decision by the U. S. Supreme Court in the industry anti-trust case, it was learned here today as the company's sales meeting at the Drake Hotel here neared its close.

The company will not offer its product for competitive bidding, nor make any other radical change in-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Walsh Sets Parley On 'Lab' Deadlock

Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, is expected to confer with the negotiating committee of laboratory Local No. 702, IATSE, over the weekend in an attempt to end the deadlock now exist-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Reviewed Today

"That's My Gal" on page 4.
Key city reports on page 5.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

OPERATORS of small theatres especially, pleading in Washington for at least a reduction, if not elimination, of the 20 per cent Federal admission tax, deeply sympathize (*sic*) with Representative Knutson's observation that only two excise-tax items are in need of immediate relief —telegrams and furs!

▽

Elsewhere in Washington this week exhibition was subjected to another brush-off, with the continued refusal to lift the ban on theatre construction, the while restrictions were removed on the number of bathrooms permitted in homes.

▽

Fred Allen is an old hand at baiting NBC script censors. Prior to a recent broadcast, he advised the studio audience that if they had made a mistake and came to the wrong air-show, they still had 10 minutes to "get the Heck out of here." "Heck," he added, "is a place invented by NBC. NBC does not recognize Hell. When a bad person working for NBC dies, he goes to Heck. A deceased good person goes to the Rainbow Room in the NBC-RCA Building.

▽

Lying on the desk of some NLRB bigwig in Washington is a petition from the new Flea, Tadpole, Worm, Cockroach, Rodent and Bird Trainers' Union (AFL) for certification as bargaining agent for trainers and handlers at Hollywood motion picture studios!

▽

The bitter cold weather prevailing in many parts of the country caused the citizens of Columbus, Ohio, to chuckle, when, braving the coldest day of the season in local weather bureau history, they spotted the marquee of Loew's Ohio Theatre and its announcement: "Suddenly It's Spring!"

▽

Recommended for any of the film oddities short subjects: Paper money has been substituted for the aluminum coins in circulation in Japan because black marketeers have been melting down 20 yen worth of coins to make an aluminum lunchbox selling for 50 yen.

▽

Exhibitors who are having trouble in their auditoriums from the crackling noises emitted by bubble-gummers might take a cue from the manager of Pop's Palace, film theatre at Bergenfield, N. J., where the explosions of bubble-gum reached such a crescendo the other day that the sound from the screen was drowned-out completely. House lights were finally turned on and manager Alex Harris told the juvenile audience that they could blow bubbles or see the show, but not both. Thus ended the gum barrage that had sounded like a firing range.

Personal Mention

J. MILLER WALKER, RKO corporate secretary, is confined to his home here as the result of a sprained back, sustained Wednesday while attending the company's stockholders meeting at Dover, Del.

•

OLIVER UNGER, co-producer of "The Roosevelt Story," will fly from New York to Brussels over the weekend where he will represent independent producers at the International Film Festival.

•

RICHARD BASEHART, Eagle-Lion star, and MRS. BASEHART, accompanied by JERRY PICKMAN, assistant advertising-publicity-exploitation director, leave here today for Cincinnati.

•

PRISCILLA NATHAN HALPERN, daughter of the late LEW NATHAN, one-time head of Paramount's home office photographic department, is retiring from the company today.

•

JAMES GELLER, Eagle-Lion producer, is en route to New York by plane to attend the forthcoming wedding of his daughter, JANET, to ROBERT EDELMAN.

•

CHARLES SAPHVO, Selznick Releasing Organization special representative, visited HENRY KRUMM, Southern division manager, in Atlanta.

•

JENNIFER JONES is at the Griswold Hotel, New London, Conn.

LESTER KOENIG, assistant to WILLIAM WYLER at the Paramount studios, will fly back to the Coast from New York on Sunday.

•

SOL A. ROSENBLATT, former Production Code Administrator, has been appointed impartial chairman of the Coat and Suit Industry of New York, succeeding former GOVERNOR CHARLES POLETTI.

•

TONY HUNTING, Reade circuit city manager in Red Bank, N. J., has been appointed chairman of the Monmouth County Cancer Drive's "Tag Day."

•

MR. and MRS. ROGER DI PASCA are parents of a daughter. MRS. DI PASCA, the former VIRGINIA MCCULLOUGH, was secretary to JACK COHN, Columbia executive vice-president.

•

LESTER BONA, Warner branch manager in St. Louis, will celebrate his 25th anniversary with the company on June 12.

•

J. HAROLD ROTH of Eagle-Lion's home office contract department, and MRS. ROTH, have become parents of their second daughter.

•

HERMAN GREENBERG, in charge of licensing for ASCAP, has left New York for the Coast. He will stop over at ASCAP branches en route.

•

E. Z. WALTERS, Altec comptroller, is on the Coast from New York.

Coming Events

June 10-12—Annual Round-up of Salt Lake Motion Picture Club, Salt Lake City.

June 10-12—Radio Manufacturers Association annual meeting, Hotel Stevens, Chicago.

June 11—Motion Picture Foundation organizational meeting, Salt Lake City.

June 23-25—Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana convention, Lake Wawasee, Ind.

June 24-26—Allied Theatres of New Jersey 28th annual convention, Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City.

June 30—Film industry testimonial dinner to Jack Flynn, retiring Midwestern sales manager for Loew's, Continental Hotel, Chicago.

July 13-16—Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio annual convention at the Breakers Hotel, Cedar Point, O.

Meeker Acquires Third

HARDIN, Mo., June 5. — Charles Meeker, who operates the Roxy, at Everton, Mo., and the Star, at Miller, has taken over the Lentz, here, changing its name to the Hardin.

Griffis Is Expected To Hold Para. Post

Stanton Griffis, newly appointed Ambassador to Poland, will in all probability continue as chairman of the executive committee of Paramount, according to Paramount officials. It was pointed out that the company's proxy statement to stockholders lists Griffis for reelection at the annual meeting on June 17.

Griffis' Paramount post is not a continually active one. Wartime assignments kept him out of this country for as much as a year at a time, during which he held the Paramount post. Earlier this week Griffis resigned as board chairman of Madison Square Garden Corp.

Griffis Visits Truman; Will Depart Next Week

WASHINGTON, June 5.—Stanton Griffis paid a final visit to President Truman here today and expects to leave here next week on the *Queen Elizabeth*. After stays in London and Paris he will go to Warsaw to assume his new duties as Ambassador to Poland.

Bartolotti Gets Title

PARIS, June 5.—Joseph A. Bartolotti has been named Paramount's manager for Cairo, Egypt, by John B. Nathan, division manager for Continental Europe, North Africa and the Middle East. Bartolotti had been acting manager in Cairo for some time.

Hickey Extends Tour For Children's Films

DALLAS, June 5.—Duke Hickey, Motion Picture Association field representative, has established headquarters at the Baker Hotel here from which he is conducting surveys locally and in Fort Worth in connection with the Children's Film Library program launched last fall by Eric Johnston, MPA president.

Hickey recently completed a series of special assignments in the interest of the Library in areas served by the Chicago, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Memphis and New Orleans exchanges. During his Texas sojourn he may visit Houston, Austin, San Antonio, El Paso and other Texas communities. The Film Library is receiving support throughout the South, Hickey reports.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
John MILLS • Valerie HOBSON
in J. Arthur Rank's
"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
Skirley Franchot Guy
TEMPLE • TONE • MADISON
in
Honeymoon

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY at 45
ON SCREEN
BOB HOPE
Dorothy LAMOUR
'MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE'
IN PERSON
DIOSA COSTELLO
EARL WARREN SEXTET
ARCHIE ROBBINS

RAY MILLAND • TERESA WRIGHT
in "The Imperfect Lady"
A Paramount Picture
in Person
BUDDY CLARK
THE MODERNAIRES
JAN MURRAY
THE ACROMANIACS
BOYD RAEBURN AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

29 WEEK!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE BEST FILM OF THE YEAR!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
ASTOR
B'WAY & 45th ST.

Maureen O'Hara, John Payne, Edmond Gwenn
"Miracle on 34th Street"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Plus on Stage—JERRY LESTER - ART LUND
Extra! JAN AUGUST
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

"ERROL and KENNEDY COMEDIES ...TOP 'EM ALL"

—say the guys who play 'em!



"Poor Edgar, if he ever outwits his brother-in-law and Mama, we're going to send him orchids. Our patrons just love to see him pushed around—and shout with glee!"

—Mattie Kimbrough, Temple, Texas

"Usual good Edgar Kennedy with plenty of laughs!"

—Abe H. Kufman, Fountain, Terre Haute, Ind.

"A good comedy which will make anyone laugh. Play it!"

—E. M. Freiburger, Paramount, Dewey, Okla.

"Our Kennedy fans said this was his best; he lowered the ice cream freezer on his brother-in-law and the customers rolled in the aisles!"

—Roy Reeves, Brockton, New Brockton, Ala.

"Leon Errol in 'Let's Go Stepping' is an excellent comedy!"

—James C. Balkcom, Jr., Gray, Ga.

"A scream for slapstick and one of his best ever, in my opinion."

—Terry Axley, New, England, Ark.

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Here's down-to-earth, grass-roots laughter for everyone!
Year-after-year bookings by more than 8,000 theatres prove that Errol and Kennedy subjects are . . .

THE BEST 2-REEL COMEDIES ON THE MARKET!

Britton Sees 16mm. Market in Far East

The Far East is a great potential market for 16mm. product, Leon Britton, RKO Radio Far Eastern supervisor, declared here yesterday. He believes it will develop first in the Philippines and in the Strait Settlements.

Discussing a drop of 25 to 30 per cent in business in the Far East, Britton cited the exodus of troops and curfews because of political disturbances as responsible factors.

While native producers are offering competition, RKO Radio is dubbing films, and "this will help considerably," Britton pointed out. U. S. independents have sent over considerable product, and the leading U. S. companies are losing playing time. Britton predicted that the companies will eventually have to have their own first-run outlets.

China's troubled economic position has led to the freezing of money due distributors, he added and in addition, the Chinese government has imposed an import quota limiting the American companies to a collective total of 2,400,000 meters in 1947.

Bayes to Eagle-Lion

Peter Bayes has been appointed to Eagle-Lion's field promotional staff, by Max E. Youngstein, E-L's advertising-publicity director. Bayes, who will work under direction of exploitation manager Arthur Jeffrey, has just completed his first assignment, the world premiere of "Repeat Performance" in Zanesville, O., and 20 subsequent first-runs which followed. Prior to entering the Army, he was for two years publicist at the New York Strand.

Review

"That's My Gal"

(Republic)

"THAT'S My Gal," which spotlights Donald Barry and Lynne Roberts, comes off as a mildly diverting musical comedy at best, when a few specialty numbers occupy the screen. Trucolor proves a fair asset.

The backstage yarn is about a group of producers who promote no less than 250 per cent in financial backing for their play, one of the "angels" being the governor of the state who appears on the scene through a device far too convenient to be convincing. Joseph Hoffman's screenplay, taken from an original by Frances Hyland and Bernard Feins, plods its way through 66 minutes of lukewarm effectiveness, culminating with a happy ending when the state government takes full control of the play, which turns out to be successful.

Pinky Lee, Frank Jenks, Edward Gargan and Judy Clark lend support in subordinate roles, and providing a substantial lift are the fiery Isabelita, Jan Savitt and orchestra and other acts. Armand Schaefer was associate producer and George Blair directed.

Running time, 66 minutes. General audience classification. Now in release.

GENE ARNEEL

Levey Prod. Using 'Proven Campaign'

A new manner of presenting promotional ideas to replace a pressbook has been adopted by Jules Levey Productions, based on an idea of Charles Reed Jones, promotion manager for the independent producing company.

Basically, it is a report of "a proven campaign," in this case, a test campaign used for "New Orleans" and its premiere in the city of the same name.

Another E-L Meeting

A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and sales manager of Eagle-Lion, has left here for Atlanta, where he will conduct another in his series of sales meetings and "round-table discussions" on "Repeat Performance" over the weekend.

Million 'GI's' See Films in 500 Houses

WASHINGTON, June 5.—More than 1,000,000 soldiers are currently seeing pictures in nearly 500 Army theatres here and overseas, according to Fred Bund, chief of Army Motion Picture Service, a civilian organization that has been selecting and distributing films to Army theatres since 1921. During the war, the outfit serviced 1,200 theatres in this country alone. The number is now down to 290 houses here, and 195 overseas.

The Army's theatregoing tastes are very similar to the mass base of men everywhere, according to Bund: action pictures, musicals, comedies and good Westerns. Among the top Army post box-office draws are Rita Hayworth, Betty Grable, Ingrid Bergman and Esther Williams.

Of the 139 theatres operating in Europe and the Antilles, no change is expected, but those in the Far East will probably increase from the present 45 to about 100. Hawaii and the Canal Zone are not included in these figures since their 40 theatres operate independently of AMPS.

Resume Operators' Negotiations Here

Negotiations will be resumed here next week between representatives of AFL projectors Local No. 306, IATSE, and the Loew, Randforce, RKO and Skouras circuits on the union's demand for a 34 per cent wage increase for its 1,200 members. A negotiation session was held last week.

Among the union's additional demands is a request, for the first time, for a five per cent welfare fund.

3 'IA' Locals Seek New Headquarters

Three IATSE locals here are looking for a new home. Notice has been served on all tenants of 251 West 42nd St., address of the locals, to vacate by November.

The locals include Motion Picture Operators Local No. 306, Motion Picture Home Office Employes Local No. H-63, and Studio Mechanics Local No. 52.

Set N. T. Meetings On British Bookings

HOLLYWOOD, June 5.—Detailed arrangements for providing increased bookings for British films throughout National Theatres operations are to be determined at a series of meetings here between William J. Heineman, in charge of sales for J. Arthur Rank pictures in this country, and Edward Zabel, National Theatres film buying executive.

(MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported on May 23 that national circuits were disposed to grant additional playing time to British pictures on a scale commensurate with their box-office potentialities.)

Charles Skouras, head of National Theatres, pledged the circuit's cooperation on behalf of British pictures at a luncheon which he tendered to Rank here yesterday.

"Good English pictures," Skouras said, "are proving a stimulant to Hollywood thinking and will result in finer over-all quality of motion picture entertainment. The result can only be beneficial to theatres as audiences respond to better films."

In responding, Rank said: "All we ask is a helping hand in introducing a new type of product to a new market. With the proper help and the proper return we can make more pictures of universal appeal to stimulate your box-offices."

Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, who attended the luncheon, said: "The cost of American production is now so high that we must have the English market to maintain profitable Hollywood production. If a market that has returned us $80,000,000 last year should be closed to us because the English could not afford to import our pictures, either American pictures of quality would suffer or the American theatregoer would have to pay more for his entertainment."

Roach, UA Heads To Meet at Luncheon

Producer Hal Roach will meet here today with sales executives and advertising, publicity and exploitation heads of United Artists at a luncheon in Toots Shor's to formulate plans for his first post-war production, "The Hal Roach Comedy Carnival."

Attending from UA will be Edward C. Raftery, Gradwell L. Sears, J. J. Unger, Edward M. Schnitzer, Maury Orr, Paul N. Lazarus, Sr. Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., Tom Waller, Mori Krushen, Francis Winikus, Jack Ellis, George Ornstein, Robert Goldfarb, Abe Dickstein, Jack Wrege and John Hughes.

Present from the Roach staff will be Jules Seltzer, Grace Rosenfield and Herbert Gelbspan. Members of UA's New York exchange on hand will be Edmund Mullen, Ray Wylie, Richard Perry, William Schutzer, Dave Burkan and Sam Rifkin.

Emerson Is Named RKO Denver Chief

Joseph C. Emerson has been appointed manager of RKO Radio's Denver exchange, succeeding Thomas Bailey, resigned, by Robert Mochrie, vice-president and general sales manager. Emerson has been with RKO Radio since Oct., 1941.

M-G-M TRADE SHOW

"IT HAPPENED AT THE INN"

(French Version With English Subtitles)

ALBANY

Territory Only

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20th FOX SCREEN ROOM

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TUESDAY, JUNE 10th

8 P.M.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Ramrod" was the gross standout of a week influenced beneficially by the Memorial Day influx of out-of-towners. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 4:

ODD MAN OUT (UI-Rank)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500)
MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $18,500. (Average: $18,200)
UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M) and MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M) — EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,100)
UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M) and MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M) — FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $13,300)
THE WEB (U-I)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,900)
THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $19,800)
THE WEB (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,200)
MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox) and LITTLE MR. JIM (M-G-M) — LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $28,600)
UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M) and MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,095) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $22,600).
MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $11,500)
RAMROD (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,700)
RAMROD (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $14,200)
RAMROD (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,600. (Average: $5,400)
RAMROD (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood (490) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,700)
THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.) — PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,800)
SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.) and SEVEN WERE SAVED (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $26,600)
SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $16,100)
THE WEB (U-I) RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average $9,600)
THE WEB (U-I) — STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,100)
THE WEB (U-I) and DECOY (Mono.) UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,800)
MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox) — UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $13,200)
LOVE AND LEARN (WB) — WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,200)
LOVE AND LEARN (WB) — WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c - 60c - 80c - $1.00). Gross: $10,500. (Average: $15,500)
LOVE AND LEARN (WB) — WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $14,900)

SAN FRANCISCO

Business generally is somewhat below average. Estimated grosses for the week ended June 6:

FRAMED (Col.) and KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Col.) — ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 1st week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $15,000)
THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox) and THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB) — FOX (4,651) (65c-85c) 1st week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $23,000)
MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION (U-I Reissue)—I STOLE A MILLION (U-I Reissue)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00). With vaudeville. 1st week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $23,000)
EGG AND I (U-I)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 1st week on moveover. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $5,500)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO) — UNITED NATIONS (1,129) ($1.25) 4th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $18,000)
BEFORE HIM ALL ROME TREMBLED (Superfilm) — TIVOLI (1,008) (55c-85c) 1st week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $7,500)
THE ROAD TO HOLLYWOOD (Astor) and SECOND CHORUS (Para.)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 1st week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $9,000)
THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,500)
THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) and DANGER STREET (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 3rd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $20,000)
ODD MAN OUT (U-I) — ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (60c-85c) 3rd week. Gross: $10,200. (Average: $18,000)
NORTHWEST OUTPOST (Rep.) and APACHE ROSE (Rep.) — STATE (2,135) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,700. (Average: $10,000)

PITTSBURGH

Most box-office grosses were greatly improved here, standing room again being the order. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 5:

ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.) — FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,700)
ODD MAN OUT (U-I) — J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,000)
THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $25,000)
THE RED HOUSE (UA) — RITZ (1,100 (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week on moveover from the Penn. Gros: $3,000. (Average: $3,200)
THE THIEF OF BAGDAD (Film Classics) and THE ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (UA) — SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,500)
THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) — STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $25,000)
HONEYMOON (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $15,000)

ASCAP Elects Board And 12 New Members

ASCAP's committee on elections will certify to the board of directors the following results of the election for its board of appeals:

Writers in the popular-production division elected are Abel Baer and Peter De Rose; in the standard music division, Douglas Moore; popular-production publishers elected are Max Mayer, Paull-Pioneer Music Corp. and Sam Stept of Stept, Inc.; and in the standard music division, John Sengstack of Clayton F. Summy Co.

The following writers and publishers have been elected to membership in ASCAP:

In the popular music field: Writers Edmund Goulding, Barbara Belle, George R. Henninger, Jack Manus, Leonard Ware and Clay Warnick. In the standard music field: Writers Boris Koutzen, Ivan Langstroth, Marks Levine and Arsene Siegel. Popular music publishers elected were: Beaux-Arts Music, Inc., and Lombardo Music, Inc.

'Caravan' to E-L

"Caravan," J. Arthur Rank production starring Stewart Grainger, has been received by Eagle-Lion here for release in the U. S.

Monogram Sponsors Television Series

Monogram - Allied Artists will sponsor a series of special films televised over Du Mont's WABD to herald the opening of "It Happened on Fifth Avenue" at the Rivoli here next week. The television "trailers" were prepared by James McNaughton, formerly scenic designer for CBS-Television and director Paul Belanger.

65 Video Stations Licensed by FCC

WASHINGTON, June 5. — Sixty-five commercial television stations, including 11 now in operation, have been granted licenses for construction permits to date, the FCC reported today. Nine additional applications are pending.

New York City leads the list with three stations already licensed, four given construction permits. Los Angeles is next with construction permits for six stations; Chicago, third with one licensed station and four granted construction permits. Five of the stations are credited to National Broadcasting Co.; four to American Broadcasting Co.; three to Crosley Broadcasting Corp. Allen B. Dumont Laboratories has licenses for three stations and has applied for two additional ones.

NAB Asks Delay of White Bill Hearings

WASHINGTON, June 5.—The National Association of Broadcasters has requested that hearings on the White bill, which proposes a reorganization of the Federal Communications Commission, be postponed until July 1. Hearings are scheduled to open on June 17, and the NAB argues that this does not give enough time for "representative broadcasters" to make arrangements for appearing in Washington.

The White bill also proposes to revamp powers and procedures under the Federal Communications Act. One section of it would lift the ruling granting only five television stations to one company.

Senator White told the NAB today that hearings on his bill to reorganize the FCC would open as scheduled.

Memphis Ban on 'Macomber' Lifted

MEMPHIS, June 5.—Withdrawn after severe cuts ordered by Lloyd T. Binford, chairman of the Memphis and Shelby County censor boards, United Artists' "The Macomber Affair" is now scheduled to play at Loew's Palace here during the week of June 19, following a compromise of differences between Binford and theatre interests.

Brenon Honored at Farewell Luncheon

A farewell luncheon was given Aileen Brenon at Sardi's Restaurant here yesterday by her associates at Paramount, from which she resigned as head of the company's magazine to join David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films.

Atlanta Acting on Building Violations

ATLANTA, June 5.—A dozen Atlanta theatres have received notices listing building code violations with warnings to correct the defects at once.

City building inspector Marvin Harper said some theatres, where violations are considered most hazardous, will be given nuisance notices immediately. Under the nuisance notice procedure, a theatre is allowed 30-days to start actual work on correcting defects or the owner will be taken to court to show cause why the theatre should not be closed.

Harper did not name the theatres involved, but said they will be announced if it became necessary to institute court proceeding.

Inspection of all theatres in Atlanta has not yet been completed. Theatres which receive a list of violations, but not nuisance notices, will be expected to act quickly to make necessary improvements, and Harper said that if they do not do so in a reasonable time, more stringent steps will be taken with them also.

Columbus Readying New Code; Stress Modernization

COLUMBUS, O., June 5.—A new city building code being prepared by John S. Stith, chief building inspector, will be ready for action by the City Council on July 1. One clause demands that buildings being remodeled at a cost of 50 per cent of the appraised value conform with modern standards.

New clauses may help bring older structures, including theatres, up-to-date.

Film 'Spots' Shown For Television

CHICAGO, June 5.—An exhibition of six one-minute commercial film spots for television was given here by A. B. Rodner, president of Television Advertising Productions, Inc., who said the films may be used not only for home-type sets but also as follow-ups to on-the-spot news coverage for large-screen theatre audiences.

Rodner said the technique employed in the production of these one-minute commercials permits their sale for as little as $200.

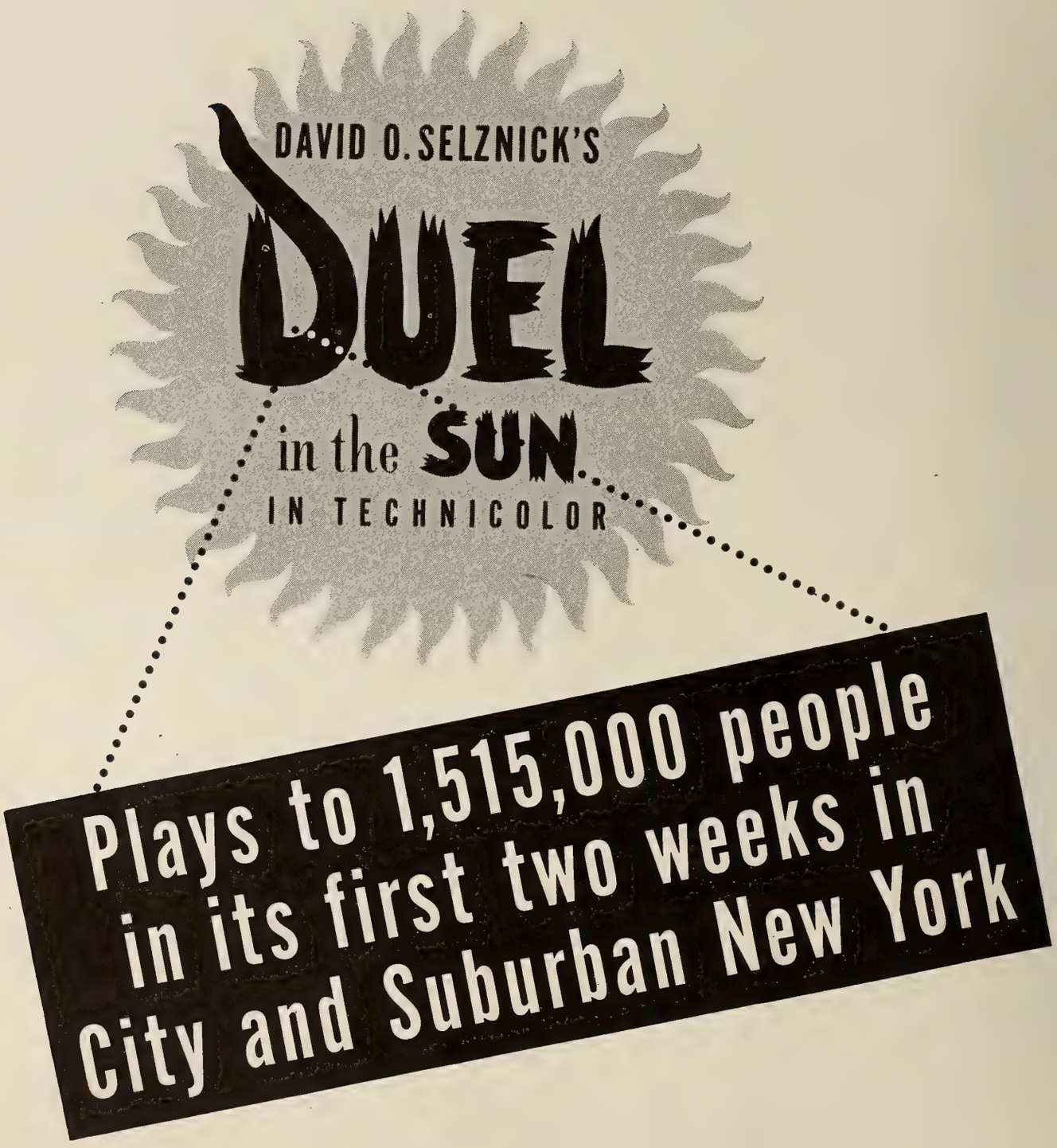
House Votes Today On Information Bill

WASHINGTON, June 5.—House leaders today called up the bill authorizing the State Department's overseas information program, and hope to pass the measure tomorrow. The vote is expected to be close.

Actually, today's debate was on the rule bringing up the program, with a two-hour debate limit. Agreeing to this rule will be the first order of business when the House meets tomorrow.

'Television Lounges' For Reade Theatres

Walter Reade, head of Walter Reade Theatres, has closed with Allen B. DuMont Laboratories for television sets for "television lounges" in Reade theatres in New York and New Jersey. Sets are already being installed in Reade's St. James Theatre, Asbury Park, and the Strand, at Freehold, N. J.


DAVID O. SELZNICK'S
DUEL
in the SUN
IN TECHNICOLOR
Plays to 1,515,000 people
in its first two weeks in
City and Suburban New York

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Audience Research Institute surveys show that 84% (8,400,000) of the approximately 10,000,000 movie goers in the Metropolitan area want to see DUEL IN THE SUN.

Over a million and a half of these people have already seen DUEL in New York, leaving 7,000,000 more in city and suburban New York who are still waiting to see DUEL.



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Johnston Hits Reds, Lauds Capitalism

HOLLYWOOD, June 5.—Making his first appearance before any Hollywood guild or union, Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston yesterday declared in a private address to the Screen Writers Guild: "I am a believer in capitalism; I am conscious of its weaknesses, imperfections and the hardships caused by boom-and-bust cycle, of its inequities and injustices. But it has done more for people than any other system in all history. And it must and will do even better. We have constantly got to improve it and make it a peoples' capitalism. I am a staunch advocate of strong guilds and unions because they help make capitalism work."

Later in the speech he declared: "I don't like American Communists. They are a disruptive force in American government, industry and labor. I think American Communists are treasonable and subversive. They are potential foreign agents—dupes and suckers for the 14 men who sit in the Kremlin and pull strings which make Communists toe the party line everywhere.

Johnston to Milwaukee; O'Hara, Cheyfitz Eastward Bound

HOLLYWOOD, June 5.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, left here by plane today for Milwaukee, where, on Saturday, he will address the national convention of the Young Republican Clubs, and following which he will fly to Spokane on personal business. On June 16 Johnston will receive an honorary degree at Washington State College. On June 22, he will leave New York to represent the industry at the International Film Festival in Brussels.

MPA executives Joyce O'Hara left here by plane today for Washington headquarters, and Edward Cheyfitz flew to New York.

Lawrence-Korda Suit To Trial on June 16

The $500,000 breach-of-contract suit filed against Alexander Korda, British producer, by Laudy Lawrence will go to trial in New York Supreme Court on June 16.

Lawrence had been president of Korda's company here, London Film Productions, New York, until last June. Korda charges interests other than London Films occupied the plaintiff's time. Morris Helprin now heads the company here.

To Film 'Beggars Opera'

A picturization of the John Gay musical, "The Beggars Opera" has been announced by Michael Balcon, head of the London Ealing Films group of the J. Arthur Rank Organization in England, the latter's New York office discloses. The production, to be filmed in Technicolor, will be in the Gay tradition. Basil Dearden will direct and Michael Relph will be associate producer.

Benny Gets Statuette

Jack Benny received a gold statuette Tuesday from A. J. Balaban, executive director of the Roxy Theatre, at the conclusion of Benny's two-week engagement at the theatre. The statuette is inscribed: "To Jack Benny for the outstanding (Roxy) box office achievement of any stage attraction May 21 to June 3, 1947."

Name New Newsreel

(*Continued from page* 1)

be outlined to the district managers, who subsequently will hold meetings in their respective territories to acquaint their sales staffs with the setup. Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager, whose department will have charge of the reel's sale and distribution, will explain the machinery set to handle the new project.

James Allen, who was appointed by Harry M. Warner, president of the company, to head the newsreel editorial staff, is due in from the Coast to attend today's meeting.

Albert Warner addressed the opening session briefly. Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, spoke on special campaign plans for coming product, including "Life with Father," which was screened in the afternoon. Also discussed was the company's sales drive.

Others attending are: Samuel Schneider, Roy Haines, Jules Lapidus, Norman Ayers, I. F. Dolid, Bernard R. Goodman, Ed Hinchy, Gil Golden, Larry Golob, Charles A. Baily, William Brumberg, Sam Lefkowitz, Henry Herbel, Robert Smeltzer, Haskell Masters, Harry A. Seed, Hall Walsh, Charles Rich, Doak Roberts, John F. Kirby, Howard Levinson, and others.

Film Dividends Up

(*Continued from page* 1)

the 1946 three-month period to $3,800,000 this year. Warner Brothers' payments rose 50 per cent, from $1,900,000 to $2,800,000.

Commerce officials said that much of the 1947 quarter's increase in dividend distribution was probably due to a recent Treasury Department ruling, which states that companies paying out more than 70 per cent of their net income in dividends will not be subject to close Federal scrutiny. Officials indicated that they expect an even greater increase in dividend payments in the future.

Freight Rate Rise

(*Continued from page* 1)

with various industries expected to have representatives on hand in opposition. It is understood here that the Motion Picture Association will be represented.

Railway Express here claims that the increase in railroad traffic costs necessitates raising its rates.

The company's facilities are employed in shipping film from studios to laboratories, from Hollywood to distribution points (exchanges), and from the latter to theatres.

Col. Sales Policy

(*Continued from page* 1)

volved in the New York Federal Court decree, which has been stayed by the high court. Except for the stay, it was pointed out, all defendant companies would have been required to inaugurate competitive selling by the first of next month.

Columbia will sell as many pictures at one time as an exhibitor account may want but the deals will be negotiated picture-by-picture.

Abe Montague, Columbia general sales manager, will wind up the meetings here tomorrow and will leave for New York over the weekend.

Eisler Probe Off Until September

WASHINGTON, June 5.—Rep. Thomas, chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee, today announced postponement of the Hans Eisler hearings until September, at which time they will probably be merged into the general hearings planned on alleged Communist penetration of Hollywood. Inquiry into activities of Eisler, film composer, was slated to begin tomorrow.

At the same time, Lowell Mellett, aide to the late President Roosevelt and allegedly the person who persuaded Robert Taylor to appear in a pro-Soviet film, demanded immediate open hearings on the charges reportedly made by the screen star at a sub-committee probe conducted several weeks ago on the Coast.

Rank's Deals

(*Continued from page* 1)

ents owned by B. and H. and with the guidance of that company.

The deals were initiated by Rank during his recent visit here en route to the West Coast. He conferred while here with E. N. Rauland of the large-screen television company and with J. H. McNabb, president of Bell and Howell. He visited both plants and witnessed a demonstration of the Rauland large-screen television.

Rank previously had announced that he planned to install large-screen television in one or two of his West End theatres in London next fall and would initiate regular theatre television programs providing Parliament authorizes telecasts of the kind by private British enterprise. Television is a government monopoly in England.

Fabian-U.A.

(*Continued from page* 1)

the deal traces to the terms being insisted upon by Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin, co-owners of United Artists, and the unwillingness or inability of Fabian to meet them. It has been reported that Miss Pickford has asked that control of the company revert to the present owners in the event that dividends on preferred stock are defaulted at any time after the sale. In addition, it is said that the owners' asking price is $15,000,000.

Fabian's deal was to have been financed by the First National Bank of Boston.

'Lab' Deadlock

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing between the local and representatives of 16 film laboratories here. Nearly 2,000 technicians are affected.

It is believed likely that Walsh may have already personally spoken to representatives of the companies in an effort to reach an agreement. Walsh will sail for England next Wednesday.

Party for Ted Lewis

Coincident with the Eastern premiere of Warner's "Cheyenne," the New York Strand tonight will hold an all-night back-stage party honoring Ted Lewis, whose orchestra will provide the "in person" show for the bill opening today.

NFS's Setup

(*Continued from page* 1)

booked, and is prepared to service the remaining 10. As reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, SRO's deal with members of National is costing that company about one-fifth of what it would cost through regularly constituted distribution channels. NFS has film storage vaults in all territories.

Elsewhere it was learned that while the cost of physical distribution charged by NFS is lower than the expenses incurred by a regular distributor, National has not yet determined a definite comparison of its overall charges against the expenditures of a distributor for the maintenance of an exchange system.

National operates in the main through the 29 regional film deliveries which are members of its affiliated National Film Carriers, both of which have headquarters in Philadelphia. James P. Clark, Thomas W. Gilboy and Clint Weyer are the principals.

NFS is understood to be negotiating with several independent producers for the physical handling of their product throughout the country. One advantage of the service which has been pointed out is explained in the case of Selznick and "Duel," where, unable or unwilling to make a distribution deal with one of the companies having an exchange system, and where a costly production is involved, physical handling by NFS enables the producer to make his own deal with a theatre, or, where terms cannot be agreed to, the producer can show the production on his own. Some point out that in the case of a costly independent picture for which selected runs are intended for extended playing time, the wide facilities of a regular distributor are not necessary.

Legislation Aspect

(*Continued from page* 1)

and New Jersey allowing fourth class resort cities to do likewise.

The Connecticut legislature, which adjourned yesterday, passed no legislation affecting the industry, Bryson said. No tax bills were adopted, though several were introduced. A censorship bill was killed in committee.

Two others, Rhode Island and Missouri, adjourned last week. In Missouri, a censorship bill was killed in committee, and a tax bill defeated. No censorship bill was introduced in Rhode Island, and the tax bill that was passed did not affect admissions.

Other recent adjournments reported by Bryson are: Iowa, which defeated a censorship bill and passed no tax bill; Maine, where a five per cent admission tax bill was defeated; Minnesota and Vermont, which both defeated tax bills.

Rathvon Reelected

(*Continued from page* 1)

troller; William H. Clark, treasurer; A. W. Dawson, O. R. McMahon, Harold E. Newcomb, Thomas F. O'Connor and A. E. Reoch, assistant treasurer, and Kenneth B. Umbreit and William F. Whitman, assistant secretaries.

Following the election, the board declared a quarterly dividend of 30 cents per share on common stock, payable July 1, to holders of record on June 16.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

61. NO. 111 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, JUNE 9, 1947 TEN CENTS

Owners Attack New Bldg. Code At NY Hearing

MMPTA and ITOA Hold Hardship Is Threatened

Representatives of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association and Independent Theatre Owners Association, both of New York, attacked several provisions in the proposed revision of the New York State standard building code at the initial public hearing, here on Friday, maintaining that undue hardship would be imposed on theatre owners if the revisions become law.

Members of the State Board of Standards and Appeals, before whom the hearing was conducted, answered the protestations through their chairman, Raymond M. Fisher, giving as-

(*Continued on page 3*)

U-I Sets a Blumberg, Rank Sales Drive

"Aiming at the greatest concentrated selling effort in the company's history during the next 22 weeks ending Nov. 1," Universal-International has launched a "Nate Blumberg-J. Arthur Rank Good Business Drive," with $50,000 in cash prizes to be distributed among the company's district and branch managers, salesmen and bookers, William A. Scully, U-I vice-president and general sales manager, has announced.

"The drive is being dedicated to Blumberg, president of U-I, and to Rank, head of the Rank interests in Great Britain," to signify "the inter-

(*Continued on page 3*)

FCC Has Authorized 1,000 FM Stations

Washington, June 8. — The Federal Communications Commission has announced that there now are authorized nearly 1,000 FM broadcast stations, serving more than 500 different communities, in 47 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Some 215 stations are already on the air, and construction permits or conditional grants have been issued to nearly 800 more.

New Authority On 20th Sales

A new policy which will give 20th Century-Fox division sales managers full authority in the field to negotiate and approve contracts and to handle other problems of distribution was announced here on Friday by Andrew W. Smith, Jr., new general sales manager.

"The men in the field are responsible for the distribution of our company's pictures and we are now giving them the authority that goes with that responsibility," Smith said, adding: "This is our 'open door' policy."

The company may hold a national sales convention in the fall, Smith went on, pointing out that the company had not had one for several years.

The question of increased admission prices for "Captain from Castile" and for "Forever Amber" is now under consideration, he said. Present plans call for "Forever Amber" to open at the Roxy here early in November, simultaneously with openings in Los Angeles and possibly in other theatres on the Coast. Smith also disclosed that the company plans to reissue "Alexander's Ragtime Band" and "Western Union."

"I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" will have its world premiere on July 3 at the Oriental Theatre in Chicago, Smith said. "Gentleman's

(*Continued on page 3*)

Abeles Is Promoted At Warner Brothers

Arthur S. Abeles, Jr., manager for Argentina and supervisor of Warner Brothers' operations in Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay, has been promoted to the post of executive assistant to Max Milder, managing director for Warner in Great Britain, it was announced over the weekend by Harry M. Warner, president of the company. Abeles will leave Buenos Aires for London about Aug. 1 to assume his new duties.

Others promoted, it was announced by Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of

(*Continued on page 3*)

To Start Universal Wage Talks Here

Representatives of Motion Picture Home Office Employes Local No. H-63, IATSE, and of Universal will begin negotiations here tomorrow under a wage reopening clause of the present two-year contract. More than

(*Continued on page 3*)

German Film Plans Still Set by Army

Washington, June 8.—U. S. policy on the German film industry will continue to be handled under Army auspices for several months, although exploratory talks have been initiated between State Department and War Department officials on the transfer of administration of occupied areas to the State Department.

Ansco May Produce Raw Film Abroad

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., June 8.—Ansco is considering manufacturing in Europe as part of its program to satisfy the demands of foreign markets, it is disclosed here by E. Allan Williford, general manager of Ansco and vice-president of its parent, General Aniline and Film Corp., on his return to Binghamton after nine weeks in Europe.

Williford, accompanied by David B. Dyche, vice-president and treasurer of the corporation, returned last week. They visited England, France, Germany and Switzerland "to investigate markets."

"We found that the exchange situation is so difficult that importation to most countries would be difficult if not impossible particularly in England where they are hard-pressed for dollars," Williford said. "However," he added, "there are possibilities that arrangements can be made to produce Ansco products in one of the European countries."

Must Show Books in Percentage Case

SUPERIOR, Wisc., June 8.—Another inspection order in a percentage case has been signed here by Judge Patrick T. Stone in Federal Court, in seven actions brought by Warner, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists, Universal and Loew's, respectively, against George Miner, Miner Amusement Co. and the Isle Theatre Co., in which the complainants allege a conspiracy to underreport receipts on percentage pictures.

The order directs the inspection of all books and records kept by the defendants for eight theatres, for the time in which the defendants operated the theatres during the six years prior to the commencement of the actions.

Disagree on Partnerships Being 'Pools'

Defer Dissolution of Some as Deadline Nears

With only a few theatre-operating pools in which the five distributor exhibitor defendants in the New York equity case are still involved, the language of the court decree has given rise to uncertainty whether operation of theatres by two or more distributors which own them on a partnership basis constitutes a pool.

The deadline for the dissolution of all pools by defendants is July 1.

A typical example of an operation that may or may not be affected by the court ban on pools, is the Buffalo Theatres, a circuit of 10 houses in which Paramount and Loew's each own 43 per cent and the remaining 14 per cent is owned by Vincent McFaul.

According to the decree, a pool is

(*Continued on page 3*)

Retirement Program For Century Circuit

A retirement plan for Century Theatres' 1,000 employes in the home office and in the field has been established by Albert A. Hovell, president, and Fred J. Schwartz, vice-president.

Costs of the plan will be paid for by Century out of a retirement trust fund to which contributions will be made yearly. The fund will be ad-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Deutsch Buys Horne Stock in Story Prod.

Armand S. Deutsch, president of Story Productions, has purchased the stock interest which Hal Horne held in that company.

Deutsch will continue with plans to produce "This Side of Innocence," Story's first production, in which Horne retains an interest. Simultaneously it was revealed that Horne acquired 100 per cent of the stock of Marquee Productions, a totally-owned subsidiary of Story.

In This Issue

"Ivy" is reviewed on page 3.

Personal Mention

JACK LEVIN, vice-president and general manager of Confidential Reports, returned to New York from Toronto over the weekend.

•

EDWARD L. WALTON, Republic's assistant general sales manager, will fly from New York today to Indianapolis, first stopover on a branch tour which will take him to St. Louis, Kansas City, Des Moines and Chicago.

•

GEORGE PAL, "Puppetoon" producer, arrived here Saturday from the Coast and is expected to start his return trip Wednesday.

•

DOLORES DEL RIO will leave here for Mexico City on June 15 and will go to Buenos Aires from there for a picture assignment.

•

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox assistant general sales manager, will be in Cincinnati today and tomorrow.

•

STEVE BROIDY, Allied Artists-Monogram president, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

Harry Thomas, PRC president, was scheduled to arrive here from the Coast over the weekend.

•

J. DON ALEXANDER, Alexander Film Co. president, is in town for two weeks from Colorado Springs, Colo.

Johnston for Study Of World Problems

MILWAUKEE, June 8.—Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, yesterday proposed the establishment of a Governmental group to survey world affairs and to follow this with a "bill of particulars" for the American people so that they might be equipped to express themselves on American foreign policy.

Addressing a convention of the Young Republican National Federation here, Johnston called for a joint council on foreign policy, composed of officers of the executive departments of the Government and members of Congressional committees dealing with foreign affairs, taxes and appropriations, which would be assigned to take "inventory" of the world's needs for relief and reconstruction and to survey America's own resources.

Roth To Produce Independently

HOLLYWOOD, June 8.—Cy Roth, production manager, is understood to be contemplating independent production of low-budget films, and is understood to be seeking the participation of independent exhibitors. He is said to have studio space and facilities, crew and personnel.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE Bureau of Internal Revenue recently revised the form of its monthly amusement tax collections report, breaking down the collection figure into five divisions, whereas formerly it announced a single over-all figure for all admission tax collections. It now lists collections for general admissions, cabaret tax, tax on sales by ticket brokers in excess of established price, 50 per cent tax on sales by theatres at prices in excess of established prices, and the 20 per cent tax on the lease of boxes and seats.

The Bureau took that occasion to caution those who have assumed that motion picture theatres contribute 80 or 90 per cent, or any fixed percentage of the total of admission tax collections, that they are treading uncertain ground.

The Bureau does not contend that theatre-tax collections are not that large a part of the total. It merely says it doesn't know itself what the theatre figure is and adds that there's no way of telling. However, Bureau officials will tell you off-the-record that they themselves do not agree that the theatre figure is anywhere near the 80 per cent or 90 per cent of the total that is accepted by some within the industry.

•

For the record, the Bureau said: "While obviously the movies are responsible for a heavy percentage of the collections in this category, the general admissions figure also includes collections from sport events (including race tracks), public dances, fairs, bazaars, lectures, stage shows, etc. The Bureau of Internal Revenue has no figures of any kind to indicate what share is contributed by any of these types of entertainment."

Further adding to the consternation of the statistically-minded within the industry was the Bureau's statement that its collection figures for specific states or districts do not necessarily indicate that the theatre patron paid his tax at a theatre within such states or districts. "It is possible," the Bureau says, "for a national chain of theatres to pay its entire tax for the whole country in the headquarters area."

Thus, figures for the Third New York collection district, which includes Times Square, have been held by some to reflect theatre attendance and business conditions exclusively within that area. According to the Bureau, that, too, can be a fallacious assumption.

Thus the figures can be regarded as little more than an indication of what the public is spending for all taxable amusements.

• •

A while back it was the intention of this department to make a few observations in connection with the statement of Robert R. Young at the J. Arthur Rank press conference here that "British pictures are better than American pictures." In addition to Young's important railroad holdings, which include Chesapeake and Ohio, Pere Marquette, New York Central and others, his interests include Pathe Industries, PRC, Eagle-Lion Films, etc. Outside of business, he is a good friend of the Duke of Windsor.

The original intention here was to protest against the broadness of Young's statement, pointing out that it would be equally unfair and equally inaccurate to proclaim, for example, that British railroads are better than American railroads, including Mr. Young's. Certainly some British pictures are better than some American pictures but that does not permit generalizing.

Supplementing his above-quoted statement, Young said: "That's why we (his film interests) are concentrating both our expenditures and our sales efforts on British pictures. We are spending more in marketing British pictures here than we can expect them to return."

Perhaps if Young did as much for his American pictures they would be better pictures than he gets from Britain and would return more.

• •

A recent bulletin of the Allied Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska reports that at the annual convention exhibitors, among other things, pledged not to buy 50 per cent pictures, recommended flat rental deals for independent exhibitors and reaffirmed opposition to local checkers.

The same bulletin announces dates for the 1948 convention, suggesting that "film rentals, percentages, checkers" will be discussed thereat.

They were all hot last year, too.

Newsreel Parade

THE graduation at West Point gets prominent coverage in current newsreels. Among numerous other events are the Golden Gloves bouts, a fire in the British rubber plant, and monkeys in a Chicago zoo. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 81—H. Whilan Minister to the United States denounces Communistic coup. Flood damages in vermont. Graduation at West Point. Nine-year-old boy conductor. British amateur golf tournament. Strong woman shows her prowess.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 279—"Dry army" again on the war path. Fire in Britain destroys vast stores of rubber. Eisenhower denounces war at West Point graduation. Monkeys in Chicago zoo. New York City sees the rodeo. International Golden Gloves contest.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 82—Golden Gloves bouts. Farmers fight cricket invasion. Report on India. Women's Christian Temperance Union opens war on liquor. West Point graduating class of 1947.

RKO PATHE, No. 84—Planes used to fight Tussoch moth. Battle flames in rubber plant in England. "D. P.'s" in Dominican Republic. U. S. feeds Germans. Boy leads Paris symphony. Glass gives animals privacy in zoo. Graduation at West Point.

UNIVERSAL, No. 45—West Point graduation. Tornado in Arkansas. New type of safety landing gear for planes. Japanese balloon site found. Royal garden party in London. Hand-painted swim suits. Rodeo in Manhattan.

Berg Leaves SRO and Joins Eagle-Lion

Herbert Berg, veteran film industry publicist, has joined the Eagle-Lion home office publicity staff, it was announced here Friday by Max E. Youngstein, E-L director of advertising, publicity and exploitation. It is understood he will handle press syndicates.

Berg, who resigned from Selznick Releasing Organization, will assume his new duties today.

Open Paramount Jacksonville Unit

JACKSONVILLE, June 8.—Paramount's new branch here will formally open tomorrow with a meeting at which the company's 1947 "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership" sales drive will be discussed. The two-day meeting will be conducted by Hugh Owen, Eastern and Southern division sales manager. Heading the branch will be Al Duren, promoted from Atlanta sales manager.

Paramount discontinued the Florida city as a branch center in 1939. The Jacksonville meeting will wind up the first group of branch sessions to be held by Owen in advance of this year's sales drive, to start August 31.

Kansas City Papers Relax on Ad Space

KANSAS CITY, June 8.—Motion picture theatres here are using much larger newspaper space than for several years, the chief reason being that the *Kansas City Star* and its *Morning Times*, have relaxed restrictions on space, permitting more lineage.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Broad Expansion Under Pathe Loan

Pathe Industries expects to strengthen its working capital by $7,000,000 within the next few weeks, with the sum, earmarked for expansion purposes among Pathe production, distribution, laboratory and other subsidiaries, to be loaned by the First National Bank of Boston, it was disclosed at the weekend by C. Warren Sharpe, Pathe Industries treasurer, who has been discussing the new financing with officials of the bank during the past few weeks.

Pathe Industries' producing subsidiaries include Eagle-Lion and PRC.

Young Discounts 'Rumors' of Wide Changes in Eagle-Lion

HOLLYWOOD, June 8.—Declaring that reports concerning major changes in Eagle-Lion have had "absolutely no foundation in fact," Robert R. Young, whose interests include Pathe Industries of which E-L is a producing subsidiary, declared here on the eve of his departure yesterday en route to New York: "I am entirely satisfied with the progress made by Eagle-Lion."

'U'-IATSE Talks

(*Continued from page* 1)

400 home office employes are affected.

While a union spokesman declined to disclose the local's wage demand, it was believed to be a request for a 20 per cent wage increase, such as was asked in the negotiations for 600 Warner Brothers home office employes. The Warner wage talks have been resumed, no final agreement having been reached.

Included in the 400 are employes of Castle Films, United World and Universal Newsreel, all U-I subsidiaries.

Coast Set Decorators Turn Down Producers on Talks

HOLLYWOOD, June 8.—Set Decorators Local No. 1421 has informed the major producers here that it will not meet with them tomorrow to resume negotiations broken off two weeks ago over the unwillingness of producers to deal with two classifications disputed by the IATSE in petitions to the National Labor Relations Board.

Disagree on Pools

(*Continued from page* 1)

an agreement whereby theatres in competition are operated as a unit. However, some attorneys contend units of a circuit are not actually in competition among themselves, the distributors have in effect pooled interests.

All five companies have liquidated all pools with independents and among themselves or are in the process of so doing. None of these, however, involve ownership situations such as the Buffalo circuit.

In another instance, RKO is said to be uncertain whether its arrangement with the Schine circuit in Buffalo, involving four theatres, constitute joint interests or a pool. The matter is now under discussion. RKO recently withdrew its Orpheum Theatre, Dubuque, Ia., from a pool with the Avon, Strand and Grand houses in that city.

Rogers To Meet Press

Republic Pictures will be host to Roy Rogers at a press reception tomorrow afternoon in the Sherry-Netherland Hotel.

Review

"Ivy"

(Universal-International—Inter-Wood)

THE depth of evil that lies concealed in a woman of delicate beauty is unfathomed in this Sam Wood Production, a powerful story fashioned for mature taste. With London at the turn of the century as the locale, it unfolds in settings of quaint beauty and charm, enabling Joan Fontaine, in the title role, to cavort in garments of elegant vogue. Add to this a cast that also includes Patric Knowles, Herbert Marshall and Richard Ney, and it seems apparent that U-I has on its roster another picture heading for a satisfactory box-office performance.

It is not long after the curtain rises that Ivy discloses herself as a woman of emotional conflicts who has a mania for men. Married to one, she taunts another, and becomes infatuated with a third; the gentlemen in the order named being Ney, Knowles and Marshall. Weary of the colorless life she leads because of her husband's poverty, Ivy flirts with the pleasures Marshall's wealth could provide, then toys with the Borgia-like idea of winning her marital freedom by poisoning her husband's brandy. The desperate deed finally done, the consequence is bitter. A post-mortem reveals the cause of death and suspicion descends on Knowles. With cagey calculation, Ivy allows evidence to build up against Knowles, a doctor from whose laboratory she acquired the deadly powder.

The Charles Bennett screenplay, based on a novel by Marie Belloc Lowndes, is freighted with conversation in its beginning, but soon picks up pace and grows to mounting intensity. The crafty probings of Sir Cedric Hardwicke, a Scotland Yard inspector, brings to light additional clues that sets Knowles free and seals Ivy's doom. Ivy's panic ends with an accidental plunge down an elevator-shaft.

Produced by William Cameron Menzies, Sam Wood directed, bringing out good performances from all quarters.

Running time, 99 minutes. Adult audience classification. For July release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Abeles Promoted

(*Continued from page* 1)

Warner-International in charge of Latin America, Australia and the Far East, include Ary Lima, former manager for Brazil, now supervisor for Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay; Armando Trucios, formerly in charge of Peru, Colombia, Ecuador and Bolivia, now general manager for Argentina; Carl Heumann, former assistant manager for Colombia, now manager of that territory: Louis Lipsky, former manager in Colombia, now manager for Chile, and Douglas J. Granville, former manager for Chile who will arrive in New York shortly for a supervising assignment in the Far East.

Plan Widespread Campaign For 'Life With Father'

Promotional plans for the launching of "Life With Father" in August as the lead-off on Warner Brothers' 1947-48 schedule were outlined by Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, at Friday's closing session of a two-day sales meeting at the home offices here. Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager, presided.

Blumenstock said it will have a special mid-August premiere, followed by a run at the Hollywood Theatre here and a special opening in Atlantic City, as well as more than 200 other day-and-date premieres throughout the country.

Blumberg-Rank Drive

(*Continued from page* 1)

national cooperation between the American and British production interests embodied in U-I," it was said by the company.

For the first time, all departments in the U-I organization have been integrated in a sales drive, including publicity and promotion units and the studio. Both charges and sales are to be calculated in the computation of standings.

Thomas Answers Mellett

WASHINGTON, June 8. — Rep. Thomas, chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee, replying to a demand by Lowell Mellett for airing of Robert Taylor's charge that Mellett "persuaded" the screen actor to appear in "Song of Russia," has declared here that Mellett will have full opportunity in September. No special hearings will be held before then, the Congressman added.

Dietz Due on 'Elizabeth'

Among those arriving here on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* today are Howard Dietz, M-G-M director of advertising-publicity; Boris Morros, producer; James E. Perkins, Paramount manager in the Far East; John B. Nathan, managing director of Paramount of Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay.

Retirement Program

(*Continued from page* 1)

ministered by a committee composed of comptroller Martin H. Newman, chairman; Flatbush district manager, Jack Weinstein; Bliss Theatre manager, Charles Call; Mrs. Justine Hudish, secretary to vice-president Schwartz, and Peter Elarde, projectionist at the Grove Theatre.

Eligible for the plan's benefits are those who had been in continuous service of the company for at least three years on March 1, 1946, and received a regular salary for employment of not less than 20 hours per week for not less than nine months of each year. Minimum payment under the plan is $15 per month while the maximum is 40 per cent of an employee's average annual earnings over the last 10 years of employment. Normal retirement date has been set at age 65.

Normal retirement income will consist in part of monies paid by the Federal Government (Social Security) and the balance from the retirement plan.

Settle Suit Over RKO Grand, Chicago

CHICAGO, June 8.—An action involving the sharing of the costs of $50,000 improvements on the Grand Theatre here, leased by RKO from Van Nomikos, was settled out of court on Friday. Terms of the settlement were not disclosed.

RKO sought to deduct one-half the cost of improvements from Nomikos' share of profits from the Grand. Nomikos contended the lease provided that written consent for structural alterations had to be obtained in advance and RKO had not complied.

Attack Building Code

(*Continued from page* 1)

surance that the board is "very receptive" to all suggestions.

Objections to the code were led by architect John MacNamara, for the MMPTA, and Morton Sunshine for the ITOA. The sum of their arguments was that theatres which will be affected by the revisions have been conforming to the present building law which, they said, has been providing adequate public safety, and therefore it would amount to penalizing owners unnecessarily to force them to make the many expensive structural alterations required under the proposals.

As far as existing theatres are concerned, certificates of compliance with the present building code will expire two years after the new code is put into operation.

MMPTA and ITOA representatives will attend subsequent hearings, to be held in Buffalo today, in Rochester tomorrow, in Syracuse on Wednesday and in Albany on Thursday, at which they will reiterate the stand taken here.

Application of the proposed revisions in the code to drive-in theatres was challenged on several counts by Philip Harling, assistant to Si Fabian, president of Fabian Theatres, at the hearing. Fabian has a number of drive-ins in New York State.

20th Sales Authority

(*Continued from page* 1)

Agreement" may be ready for showing by Thanksgiving.

Smith revealed that 20th Century-Fox will close a product deal with Brandt Theatres within the next few days. The company has not sold to the Brandt Theatres in recent months.

Smith announced that Sam Shain, director of trade relations, had been appointed director of exhibitor and public relations for the distribution department. Shain will also act as Smith's personal representative.

Reade Managers Meet

Walter Reade, Jr., presided over a meeting of the Reade Theatres' city and district managers at the weekend. Attending were: Edwin Gage, Jack P. Harris, Jim Watson, Charlie Jacobsen, Nick Schermerhorn, Hal Martz, David Nolan, Roy Blumenhiem, Tony Hunting, Johnny Balmer, Ralph Lanterman, Guy Hevia, Bob Case, Murry Mienberg, Julius Daniels, Harry Burke and Steve Brener.

$32,000 for 'Avenue' Ads

Heavy exploitation campaign is now in progress here for tomorrow's opening of Roy Del Ruth's "It Happened on 5th Avenue", at the Rivoli Theatre. Newspaper advertising alone is budgeted at $32,000.

Robert R. Young's answer in response to a question by a reporter at a press conference for J. Arthur Rank and Mr. Young:

Eagle Lion* is an American producing company in which we Americans are interested. It also distributes pictures in North and South America, both the pictures which we produce in Eagle Lion and the pictures which we are fortunate enough to get from Mr. Rank. Mr. Rank in turn distributes Eagle Lion American made pictures throughout the balance of the world so that we have set up a medium of exchange and foreign trade which can go on operating, we believe, even if England in her present serious straits reaches a point when she can no longer give dollars for American films. I might say that you have struck upon the key to my real interest in the situation and why I am here today, which is to endeavor more as an American citizen than as a producer of pictures to stop a state of degeneracy which has come to American foreign trade, which if continued can only end in a continuation of economic distress all over the world.

I would like to review very briefly the history of American foreign trade. Up until the First World War American foreign trade was a two-way proposition. Our goods went out and we took goods back in exchange. Beginning in 1920 the political situation became such that large business interests desiring to keep foreign goods out preferred to take payment for American manufactured goods in credits—credits represented by Polish, German, Italian, Japanese and Peruvian bonds—and so, instead of taking goods for our copper, steel, wheat, etc., we took paper. Well, that resulted so disastrously when those bonds defaulted, taking many of our banks with them, that in the next decade, beginning 1930, we decided we would stop that kind of business. We would continue not to take goods and continue not to support foreign industry, but we would insist on nothing but gold. So that continued until we got all the gold in the world, and it was that kind of American one-way foreign trade which developed the economic conditions in Germany and Italy which created Hitler and Mussolini.

Now we are in the third stage of degeneration. Having found that bonds were no good and having gotten all the gold in the world so that we have destroyed the gold standard and you have no basis for exchange any more, we have now decided that we will still not take foreign goods, but we will give away American goods for nothing.

So I am here as a citizen and as a taxpayer more than as a motion picture executive to try and bring America back to its senses and make them realize that if you are going to have foreign trade that it has got to be bilateral not only unilateral.

May 29, 1947
Beverly Hills Hotel,
Beverly Hills, California

**Eagle Lion is wholly owned by Pathe Industries, Inc., in which Mr. Young is the principal stockholder.*

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 112 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 1947 TEN CENTS

MR. JOYCE O'HARA,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Aim to Avoid Repetition in Appeal Briefs

Companies To Meet Today To Reduce Duplication

Attorneys for all eight distributor defendants in the New York anti-trust suit will meet here today in a concerted effort to minimize duplication of argument in appeal briefs which they are to submit to the U. S. Supreme Court at least 30 days before the high tribunal hears the case.

Taking cognizance of the Supreme Court's attitude favoring simplified and concise documents, the companies presently are aiming at agreement whereby one would take to legal task those parts of the New York decision which all dispute and which all would otherwise argue along the same lines.

Today's meeting has been called to determine to what extent repetition can be avoided in pressing arguments

(*Continued on page 8*)

ATA in New Move For Intervention

WASHINGTON, June 9.—The legal battle between the American Theatres Association, seeking to appear before the U. S. Supreme Court as intervenor in the industry anti-trust case, and the five theatre-owning distributor defendants, protesting the ATA bid, has flared up anew here.

Last month ATA and its allies, the Confederacy of Southern Associations and the Southern California Theatre Owners, filed with the high court, asking the right to intervene directly in their fight against competitive bidding.

The five companies shortly thereafter sent a memorandum to the high

(*Continued on page 8*)

High Court Delays Jurisdiction Ruling

WASHINGTON, June 9.—The Supreme Court, at its weekly decision session today, withheld an expected decision on taking jurisdiction in the New York industry anti-trust appeal.

The court was originally scheduled

(*Continued on page 8*)

Coaxial Lack Holds Up Video Nets

WASHINGTON, June 9.—The Federal Communication Commission's informal conference on television transmission today revealed that broadcasters are now ready for more television network facilities than the American Telephone and Telegraph Co., single supplier of coaxial cable transmission, can provide.

Conference discussion also pointed up sharply that the majority of television broadcasters find A. T. and T.'s proposed rate of 40 cents per month per circuit mile exorbitant.

"Costs are out of the question com-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Video Remodeling Up at TESMA Meet

CHICAGO, June 9.—Theatre architects will attend a special meeting called for the annual national trade show and convention of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers' Association, to be held at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C., Sept. 24-29. At the architects' session, discussions will be held on television equipment and architectural plans to accommodate such equipment, according to Roy Boomer, TESMA secretary-treasurer, who says many theatre owners will attend in anticipation of rebuilding or remodeling their theatres for television, adding that many

(*Continued on page 3*)

Para. Canada Sales Parley Opens Today

TORONTO, June 9.—Representatives from Coast to Coast have arrived in Toronto for the annual two-day sales conference of Paramount Film Service, Ltd. which opens tomorrow at the Royal York Hotel, with Gordon Lightstone, Canadian general manager, presiding. New York home office officials taking part in the proceedings will be Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of sales distribution; Curtiss Mitchell, director of publicity, and Oscar Morgan, in charge of short subjects and Paramount News.

Announcement was made on the eve of the convention that the world premiere of "Welcome Stranger" will be staged June 23 to 28 at the Famous Players' Capitol Theatre in Winnipeg as a tribute to the Canadian Medical Association, which will be holding its 78th annual convention in the Manitoba capital during that week.

Sherman Will Rent Via Dept. Stores

Hollywood, June 9. — Producer Harry Sherman will produce and release one Western 16mm. feature per month for domestic distribution in a nationwide set-up of top merchandise houses. Sherman now has negotiations under way with one of the biggest mail order concerns in the country and expects to use the contract as a model in dealings with some 40 other concerns.

The 16mm. Westerns will be rented on a library card system at from $2.50 to $5 per night for home showings. The project will in no sense interfere with Sherman's continued schedule of features for standard release.

Dietz Sees Growing Nationalism Abroad

There is a "growing sense of nationalism" about films in England and France, Howard Dietz, M-G-M advertising-publicity vice-president declared yesterday upon his return here aboard the *S.S. Queen Elizabeth*.



Howard Dietz

Others arriving on the *Elizabeth* were James Perkins, chairman and managing director of Paramount International in Great Britain, and Mrs. Perkins, John B. Nathan, general manager of Paramount International in Continental Europe, and Mrs. Nathan; Otto Bolle,

(*Continued on page 8*)

20th, Para. Quit 16mm. Foreign Deal

The partnership corporation which was to have been formed by Paramount International and 20th Century-Fox International for distribution of 16mm. product abroad has been abandoned, Barney Balaban, Paramount resident, disclosed here yesterday.

Last April, Emanuel D. Silverstone, 20th-Fox International home office

(*Continued on page 8*)

ATOI Advises Against Cuts In Admissions

Warns Exhibitors to be Hesitant Before Acting

INDIANAPOLIS, June 9.—Exhibitors are advised to think twice before cutting prices to meet box-office receipts which are leveling off, as a result of a survey of theaters conducted by the Associated Theater Owners of Indiana.

"Apparently there is no buyers' strike directed only against theatres that have made one or more advances in ticket prices during the past few years," W. A. Carroll, secretary of the ATOI, comments.

The survey, he said, was remarkable for its many variations, no set patterns emerging on which sweeping conclusions could be based. "It would seem that the only explanation for

(*Continued on page 8*)

MPTOA, ATA May Unite in Tax Fight

In the event the views of both organizations run parallel, American Theatres Association will ask the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America to unite with it in efforts to reduce, if not eliminate, the present Federal 20 per cent admission tax.

This would take the form of a proposed plan of tax reduction which both would submit to the House

(*Continued on page 6*)

First Percentage Suits in Portland

PORTLAND, Ore., June 9.—The U. S. District Court here was the scene of the filing of the latest percentage suits. Eight separate actions were filed by Columbia, Loew's Paramount,

(*Continued on page 8*)

In This Issue

"I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" is reviewed on page 3, "Seven Keys to Baldpate" on page 8. Key city reports are given on page 6.

Personal Mention

HARRY THOMAS, PRC president, has returned here from Hollywood.

•

MICHAEL BERGHER, Universal-International Far Eastern supervisor, and RAUL VIANCOS, supervisor for Chile, Peru and Bolivia with his office in Santiago, accompanied by ALBERTO BLANCH, Valparaiso zone representative, are here for talks with JOSEPH H. SEIDELMAN, U-I head of foreign operations.

•

ROBERT W. SELIG, executive assistant to FRANK H. RICKETSON, president of Fox Inter-Mountain Theatres, Denver, has been elected president of the board of trustees of the University of Denver.

•

CECIL B. DEMILLE, Paramount-producer-director, is en route here from the Coast to address the New York State Chamber of Commerce on Thursday.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern division sales manager, and SAM LEFKOWITZ, Eastern district manager, left here last night for Buffalo and Boston.

•

MAURICE SILVERSTEIN, M-G-M regional director for Latin America, left yesterday via Pan-American Airways for an inspection tour of his territory.

•

HERBERT HORSTEMEIR, organizer and president of the Cleveland Bookers and Cashiers' Club, was honored at a testimonial dinner by the club.

•

ALBERT E. SCHILLER, Republic branch operations chief, left here yesterday for Memphis, New Orleans and Charlotte.

•

E. J. MANNIX, M-G-M studio executive, arrived here yesterday by plane from Hollywood.

•

JOYCE O'HARA, assistant to ERIC JOHNSTON, MPA head, has returned to Washington from the Coast.

•

SID BLUMENSTOCK, 20th Century-Fox assistant exploitation manager, left here for Chicago last night.

•

AL ZIMBALIST, Film Classics advertising-publicity head, has returned here by plane from Hollywood.

•

DANIEL T. O'SHEA and E. L. SCANLON of the Selznick Organization are in New York from the Coast.

•

Y. FRANK FREEMAN, Paramount studio executive, has returned to the Coast from New York.

•

ROY ROGERS, Republic Western star, arrived here yesterday by plane from Hollywood.

•

BING CROSBY has returned to the Coast from New York.

U-I Starts 18-Week International Drive

Universal-International has launched an 18-week sales drive in honor of Joseph H. Seidelman, president of Universal's international subsidiary, it was announced here yesterday by Al Daff, foreign sales supervisor. It will include all of the 31 countries in which U-I is operating at present. Special consideration will be given to those areas where U-I releases J. Arthur Rank pictures.

Ben M. Cohn, manager of U-I overseas theatre operations, has been appointed captain of the drive. Directing the activities in the five zones in which the field has been divided will be Harry Novak, Europe; Robert Lury, Eastern Asia; Michael Bergher, Far East; Americo Aboaf, Latin America; Andre Salim, Middle East, and H. C. McIntyre, Australasia.

Gildmeyer in New WE Equipment Post

Frederick H. Gildemeyer, formerly Puerto Rican manager of the Western Electric (Caribbean) Co., has been appointed vice-president of the Western Electric Co. of Brazil, motion picture equipment and service subsidiary of the Westrex Corp.

Gildemeyer joined Electrical Research Products, a former Western Electric subsidiary, in June, 1929, supervising theatre installations in the Midwest. He transferred to the San Juan, Puerto Rico, office of Westrex in 1937.

More Opposition to Artists' Copyrights

WASHINGTON, June 9.—A House judiciary sub-committee today continued to hear opposition to a bill giving recording artists the right to copyright a particular performance or interpretation.

Appearing against the bill were Don Petty, representing the National Association of Broadcasters, and Rep. Sol Bloom, songwriter-Congressman.

Two witnesses, Herman Finkelstein of ASCAP and John Schulman of the Songwriters' Protective Association, testified in favor of a bill giving composers and performers royalty rights from jukebox performances.

400 Will Attend MPF Salt Lake City Meet

SALT LAKE CITY, June 9.—More than 400 are expected to attend the Motion Picture Foundation organizational meeting here on Wednesday to elect a national trustee, a permanent chairman, and committee members.

Participants are expected to include many members of the Intermountain Theatres Association and the Salt Lake Motion Picture Club.

Verdi Opera Filmed

"The King's Jester," a dramatization by Scalera Films of Rome of Verdi's opera, "Rigoletto," will have its American premiere at Brandt's Apollo here and Atlantic Playhouse, in Brooklyn, on June 25.

Skouras Calls for More Showmanship

Hollywood, June 9.—"This is the time for our industry to exert a greater degree of showmanship than ever before," Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, declared here yesterday before leaving for New York.

"The public is looking for genuine entertainment, and only by providing attractions which have the entertainment value it demands can our industry hope to succeed," Skouras said.

Pal Quitting Shorts For Feature Films

George Pal, Puppetoons producer, has completely abandoned the theatrical short subject field in favor of feature production, "because, although production costs have increased so much, exhibitors are unwilling to pay higher rentals," he reported here yesterday.

Pal's first feature under his new program will be "Tom Thumb," which will include both live action and puppets. The picture will be released through United Artists, with final details to be ironed out today between Pal and Edward Raftery, UA president, at a home office discussion. The picture will be completed in about a year, during which Pal will also devote his production facilities to making industrial and educational shorts for commercial corporations. He plans to make one live action-puppets feature a year for UA release.

Rathvon to Confer On RKO Sales Meet

N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO Radio, arrived here yesterday for conferences with home office executives on the company's 16th annual sales meeting, scheduled for July 7-9 at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Others who returned from Hollywood studio conferences are John Whitaker, RKO vice-president; Paul Hollister, Eastern studio representative; S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising-publicity; Terry Turner, exploitation manager, and Don Prince, foreign publicity manager.

Sochin - Carmichael Testimonial June 19

CINCINNATI, June 9.—Irving Sochin, recently appointed local Universal-International branch manager, and William J. Carmichael, transferred from that post to St. Louis, will be honored at a testimonial dinner by the Cincinnati Variety Club, Tent No. 3, on June 19. Sochin, who resigned as general manager of Theatre Owners Corp., buying-booking combine, to accept his present post, is chief barker of the local tent.

Ford, Cooper, RKO In New Unit, ARKO

John Ford and his producing associate, Merian C. Cooper, together with RKO Radio, have formed a new company, ARKO, Inc., to make what Ford terms "unusual adventure" pictures. Willis O'Brien, long-time associate of Cooper, will also be active in the new company, which is separate and distinct from Argosy Pictures, which Ford and Cooper head, and which will continue.

First film of the new company will be "Mr. Joseph Young of Africa," to be co-produced by Ford and Cooper, and to go into production Aug. 1.

Honor H. R. Munz on 25th Anniversary

DETROIT, June 9.—The Detroit film trade will tender a testimonial luncheon at the local Variety Club on Thursday to Harold R. Munz, president of Co-Operative Theatres of Michigan, on the occasion of his 25th anniversary in show business.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
John MILLS • Valerie HOBSON
in J. Arthur Rank's
"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
JOAN BENNETT
ROBERT RYAN • CHARLES BICKFORD
'THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH'
RKO RADIO PICTURE

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
BOB HOPE
Dorothy LAMOUR
'MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE'
IN PERSON
DIOSA COSTELLO
EARL WARREN
SEXTET
ARCHIE ROBBINS

William HOLDEN
Joan CAULFIELD
in
"DEAR RUTH"
with
Billy DE WOLFE
Edward ARNOLD
Mona FREEMAN
In Person
PERRY COMO
Lloyd SHAFFER and his Orchestra
Helen CARROLL and the Satisfiers
Larry STORCH
THE FOUR EVANS
A Paramount Picture - Midnight Feature Nightly
PARAMOUNT—TIMES SQUARE

29th WEEK!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE BEST FILM OF THE YEAR!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
ASTOR
B'WAY & 45th ST.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Sees 'Hardship' in Revised Bldg. Code

BUFFALO, June 9.—A requirement that all new theatres seating 600 persons be of fireproof construction may work a hardship in some cases, William T. Spann, Buffalo architect, told members of the State Board of Standards and Appeals at a hearing here in the State building. The requirement to which he referred is contained in the proposed revision of the state standard building code for places of public assembly.

The hearing was conducted by Raymond M. Fisher, one of the three members of the board; James F. Summers, associate engineer, and John Coggeshall, industrial code referee. Representatives of architectural and construction firms, labor unions and the Buffalo fire department and safety commission attended.

The proposed code would not apply to Buffalo since the city already has a building bureau charged with enforcing the local code.

Oppose Changes in S.F. Building Code

SAN FRANCISCO, June 9.—Opposition to proposed changes in the local building code relating to theatre construction and maintenance, is being voiced here by a majority of theatre owners.

The present code limits theatres not of class "A" construction to a maximum seating capacity of 299. The proposed code contemplates an increase from 299 to 400 seats.

The hearing on the proposed amendment is expected to reach the legislative floor for discussion next week. Theatre men maintain that the code has been excellent for public safety. They contend that lowering building restrictions will jeopardize public safety.

Marchbank in New Commonwealth Post

KANSAS CITY, June 9.—Bob Marchbank, for several years manager for Commonwealth Theatres at Washington, Mo., has been named its Southern division manager, succeeding Rex Barret. Marchbank will make his headquarters at Washington. Barret will continue to make his headquarters in Columbia, Mo., where he will have charge of local Commonwealth interests, including the Uptown and Boone theatres, and plans for development are now being made.

Minnesota Amuse. Co. Sets Junior Prices

MINNEAPOLIS, June 9. — Minnesota Amusement Co. will establish a policy of Junior Admission prices up and down the line for its Twin-City houses, effective June 19. A spokesman for independent operators said independents "necessarily" will meet the circuit's new price scale.

Warner Buys 'Patriots'

HOLLYWOOD, June 9.—Sidney Kingsley's play, "The Patriots," has been acquired for the screen by Warner Brothers for $250,000, Jack L. Warner, executive producer, announces. Bretaigne Windust, who has staged many Broadway plays, will make his bow as a film director with "The Patriots."

Review

"I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now"

(20th Century-Fox)

IT'S a vivid picture of the theatrical world at the turn of the century that is recreated in 20th-Fox's "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," a film biography of Joseph E. Howard, one of the great song writers of that era. In presenting the story of his life, the film also becomes a delightful anthology of top tunes of yesteryear, and strings together a series of lavishly wrought Technicolored production numbers. Produced by George Jessel with opulence and affection, it is top entertainment that will evoke emotional response in young and old in communities large and small.

With Mark Stevens cast as Howard and June Haver as his worshipful young follower, the story unfolds with melodious ease as it highlights the milestones in his career. On Howard's long trail up to recognition, Martha Stewart, as a musical comedy star, is the first to enter his affections. But when opportunity knocks, she is also the first to leave. Then comes Fritzi Barrington, a headline singer, played by Lenore Aubert. Howard falls in love with her, but she falls in love with another. Disillusioned, Howard goes off on a long, lonesome voyage, forgetting about his songs and the show he produced.

In directing, Lloyd Bacon has mixed, in flavorsome proportions, humor, sentiment and touches of pathos. At length, Howard pauses long enough in his flight from himself to discover that his song, from which the film's title is taken, is on the lips of the nation. He also learns that the show he abandoned in gloom had been nurtured by a friend of his to success, with appropriate royalties waiting. The happiest discovery of all is the singing and dancing star of the show, none other than Miss Haver, the worshipful kid now grown to attractive maturity, but still retaining her mischievous gift of fabrication. The ending is in storybook fashion that will leave all pleased. Lewis R. Foster is responsible for the original screenplay. Among some of the many other songs to stir happy nostalgia are "Honeymoon," "Oh, Gee, Be Sweet to Me, Kid," and "Hello, My Baby."

Running time, 104 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

NCA Charges School Shows Competitive

MINNEAPOLIS, June 9.—Charging that film showings by the University Film Society at the Northrop Auditorium at University of Minnesota is "not functioning as purely a U. of M." project, North Central Allied plans a protest against continuing the showings on the present scale, it was revealed here by Stanley D. Kane, executive director.

Kane pointed out that the UFS is using advertising in the Twin Cities dailies, as proof that the showings are offering direct competition to regular theatres. NCA will ask that the showings be confined to "U" audiences and the advertising restricted to the *University Daily*.

Marston Will Work At Studios of U-I

HOLLYWOOD, June 9.—Marston Productions, the company comprising Tony Martin and Nat Goldstone, has checked in at the Universal-International studio to produce "Casbah," musical version of "Pepe Le Moko," for U-I release. The film will star Martin, Yvonne de Carlo and one other. Eric Charell, French film producer, has been set to handle production, and William Bowers is already at work on the screenplay. Production is slated to get under way in the early fall.

Attacks License Fee

PHILADELPHIA, June 9.—Suit has been instituted by the Ambler Theatre in Montgomery County Court to declare illegal an ordinance providing for payment of a $1 fee for each motion picture performance. Borough authorities recently discovered a licensing ordinance which had been passed in 1914 and on May 12, 1947 the ordinance was amended to provide for the $1 fee. A hearing was set for June 13.

Coaxial Lack, Video

(*Continued from page* 1)

pared with what broadcasters can do," Dave Smith of Philco told the group. "Nobody has the god-given right to this monopoly," he added.

Allen B. DuMont Laboratories proposed a possible microwave relay system, setting a tentative operating date at nine months from now at a rate of five dollars per hour. Philco proposed a similar system, but both companies stated that they would wait to hear broadcasters' opinions on the subject before making any definite proposals.

With DuMont, Philco, National Broadcasting and stations in St. Louis, Los Angeles and Salt Lake City said to be ready for television network facilities now, A. T. and T's earliest date for transmission is next spring. Columbia Broadcasting, Westinghouse, Crosley and Fort Industries plan network operation in the near future, as do other smaller outfits, leading the FCC to make a necessary interim decision for television relaying.

Since the FCC conference was called to determine the ratio of network users to network supply, Dr. Allen B. DuMont brought up the question of stations banding together to provide their own network. More than two dozen broadcasters showed response to this proposal.

Use of a private relay system was proposed also by Paul J. Larsen of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers. Larsen asked in addition that the FCC allocate frequencies for relaying inter-city commercial television broadcasts.

Also present at the conference were Paul Raibourn of Paramount, H. H. Nance and G. W. Gillman of A. T. and T., representatives of Western Union, Raytheon, General Electric, American Broadcasting, Radio Corporation of America, and others.

Gov't Approves New Theatres, Repairs

WASHINGTON, June 9. — Several more theatre construction and repair projects have won Governmental approval.

They include: new theatres for Leon G. Velas, Yorkville, O.; Commonwealth Theatres, Inc., Mountain Home, Ark.; Herbert H. Bonifas, Chinock, Mont.; H. B. Weller, Spreckelsville, Hawaii; a theatre completion for Frank Smith, Grand Isle, La.; theatre additions for James Scott Browning, Elizabethtown, Tenn., and Motor Theatres, Inc., Hayward, Cal.; remodeling for Gulf Theatres Inc., Tampa, and theatre repairs for Harold J. Nelson, Rio, Wis.

Theatres were also approved for Harold E. Armistead, Easley, S. C.; J. N. Brandenburg, South Shore, Ky.; Star Theatres of Clemson, Inc., Clemson, S. C.; W. C. Billings, Merrill, Ore.; and Willard W. Mowbray, Blue Ridge, Ga. A drive-in was approved for Central Drive-in Theatre Co., Cleveland, O.

Crosley Asks for a Television Relay

COLUMBUS, O., June 9.—A television relay network connecting Columbus, Cincinnati and Dayton has been asked of the Federal Communications Commission by the Crosley Broadcasting Corp. The permit would allow erection of a new experimental television relay broadcast station here. Crosley officials said the network would permit television broadcasts originating in any one of the three cities to be relayed to the others. The firm already has received permits for building regular video stations in the three places.

Radio Asks for 10% U.S. Tax Elimination

WASHINGTON, June 9.—Representatives of the radio industry have called on Congress to eliminate the 10 per cent tax on radio receivers.

Among those testifying before the House Ways and Means Committee were: Maurice Paul, vice-president of Philco; Leonard H. Marks, chairman of the RMA committee on excise taxes and the NAB. All witnesses told the committee that the tax increased the cost of radio sets, thereby decreasing sales, and cited it as a special deterrent to sales of FM and television sets.

Video Remodeling

(*Continued from page* 1)

manufacturers of building materials and theatre equipment have already made display reservations.

Ray G. Colvin, president of the Theatre Equipment Dealers protective Association, which will hold its convention at the same time and place, expects 100 per cent attendance.

Boomer states that the following firms have recently been admitted to TESMA: Ansell-Simplex Ticket Co., Baldoe Electric Co., Continental Electric Co., Garver Electric Co., Griggs Equipment Co., Dependable Manufacturing Co., Dunlop Tire and Rubber Corp., Mitchell Camera Corp., Mole-Richardson, Vocalite Screen Co., Manufacturers Machine and Tool Co., Ticket Register Industries, Alto Manufacturing Co.

UNANIMOUS M

"Let us heartily recommend the Roxy's new picture, 'Miracle on 34th Street.' As a matter of fact, let's go further: let's catch its spirit and heartily proclaim that it is the freshest picture in a long time, and maybe even the best comedy of the year."
—Bosley Crowther, N. Y. Times

"Here is a comedy that has everything—heart, humor, and, above all else, originality. It's utterly delightful. Go see it and have yourself a wonderful time."
—Rose Pelswick,
N. Y. Journal-American

MAUREEN O'HARA · JOHN PAYNE in *Miracle On 34th Street* with EDMUND GWE

"Well, a miracle happened on 50th Street and Seventh Avenue yesterday. The Roxy has struck pay-dirt again. On the screen is 'Miracle on 34th Street.' It is light, it is charming, it is delightfully funny and completely captivating. It is all that, and something more."
—Kate Cameron, Daily News

"'Miracle on 34th Street' is Hollywood at its best—a comedy bubbling over with laughter, laughter that comes from the heart. This is a picture to send audiences away just a little happier than when they came in. The picture is one of the year's real delights, fresh and lovely."
—Eileen Creelman, N. Y. Sun

.....AND *Miracle On 34th*

MIRACLE RECORDS OF "MARGIE," "SMOK

...

RACLE ACCLAIM!

"Roxy audiences are in for a lot of sheer delight. They cannot escape it with 'Miracle on 34th Street.' Full of fun that makes it a treasure. The most delightful romp movie audiences are going to get this year."
—Alton Cook, N. Y. World Telegram

"'Miracle on 34th Street' is really that. For more than a month I had heard reports about it. Now I'm inclined to agree. These few words cannot tell you much about the charm of this delightful picture. You'll have to see it to know why the trade has been so excited about it. Yes, 'Miracle on 34th Street' is a miracle on any street."
—Lee Mortimer, Daily Mirror

ENE LOCKHART • NATALIE WOOD • PORTER HALL
ILLIAM FRAWLEY • JEROME COWAN • PHILIP TONGE • Written for the Screen and Directed by GEORGE SEATON • Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG • Story by Valentine Davies

"It has been a long time since a picture has made an attempt to achieve comparable freshness of idea. 'Miracle on 34th Street,' at the Roxy, is itself a miracle of originality. The picture generates an extraordinary amount of laughter, warm feeling and faith in things long forgotten."
—Archer Winsten, N.Y. Post

"A good idea, fine direction and a magnificent cast have made for a beguiling screen comedy at the Roxy. The script which has genuine continuity, humor and emotional impact. This 20th Century-Fox production is a natural, and utterly engaging entertainment."
—Howard Barnes, N. Y. Herald Tribune

Street **IS TOPPING THE**

AND "STATE FAIR" AT THE ROXY!

.....Hats off to 20 Century-Fox

NY 1st-Run Income Healthy; 'Miracle' Is Tops at $125,000

A weekend of intermittent rains caused little apparent box-office interference at New York's first runs. New films, for the most part, shared top money. The overall revenue at 18 situations is running at a fairly healthy clip.

"Miracle on 34th Street," with a stage show at the Roxy, is doing tremendous business estimated at $125,000 for the first week. This is based on the huge $98,000 grossed in the first five days ending Sunday night.

Other new ones had openings ranging from strong to mild. "The Web," at the Criterion, is headed for a substantial $31,000 in a first week. At the Strand, with "Cheyenne" and Ted Lewis's orchestra, the show brought in $31,000 Friday through Sunday and apparently will wind up its first week with $60,000.

"High Barbaree" with Guy Lombardo's band at the Capitol figures to ring up $69,000, better than average, in an initial week. "Woman on the Beach," at the Palace, is fair with $18,000 for the first week.

The popular-price debut of "Henry V" took the Broadway out of the red. First week's receipts should go over $20,000, much higher than during the preceding week when "Dishonored Lady" was the tenant.

"Scarlet Street" and "Badman from Red Butte" gave the Rialto a meager $2,900 Friday through Sunday; the combination will play only five days. "Scared to Death" will follow on Wednesday.

"Imperfect Lady" and Buddy Clark in person are likely to provide the Paramount with a fairly favorable $45,000 in six days, one day short of a third week. The regular opening day has been advanced to Tuesday, today, for "Dear Ruth" and Perry Como on stage.

"Great Expectations" is holding fast to a superior business level at the Music Hall where, with the stage presentation, the third week's take probably will hit $130,000; the show will hold for at least one more week, to be followed by "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir." "Possessed," at the Hollywood, brought in $19,000 Thursday through Sunday, indicating a handsome $32,000 for the second week of the run.

"Duel in the Sun" will return on Thursday, at the Victoria, to replace "Jungle Book," a reissue. The latter in its second and final week probably will wind up with $8,000, which is not too good. At the Astor, "Best Years of Our Lives" is still a good moneymaker with $28,000 looked for in the 28th week.

Fourth and final week of "The Other Love" at the Rivoli is a rather mediocre one, figured at $15,000. Monogram's "It Happened on Fifth Avenue" will have a benefit premiere at the house tonight for the New York City Cancer Committee and the Damon Runyon Memorial Fund for Cancer Research; the regular run will begin tomorrow.

Third and final week of "Framed" at the Globe appears headed for $17,500, about average, and will be followed on Saturday by "Bel Ami." With a dearth of better grade first-run product continuing, the Gotham has booked another reissue combination, "Drums Along the Mohawk" and "Swanee River," from 20th Century-Fox, to open on Friday. Current are "I Stole a Million" and "Magnificent Obsession," which will conclude a second and final week with a mild $7,200, estimated.

"Carnegie Hall" is still fairly strong at the Winter Garden where $22,000 is in view for the sixth week, and is slumbering at the Park which probably will take in $5,000, also a sixth week. The film will play both houses through June 18. "New Orleans" will open at the Winter Garden on the 19th.

SHORTER!
SNAPPIER!
MORE MODERN!
Switch to Filmack's
PREVUE TRAILER SERVICE
$4.50 a week
Filmack
1327 S. WABASH AVE. CHICAGO 5, ILL.

Film Shortage Seen Altering B'way Runs

A trend toward the curtailment of first-run operations in New York and other large cities is suggested by the number of re-issue and subsequent-run product now on view along Broadway, partially in consequence of the end of unusually long engagements of films at the "showcase" spots, in the opinion of exhibitors.

The latest change in policy, although temporary, is at the Criterion, owned and operated jointly by Loew's and B. S. Moss, which has slated an encore of "Gone With the Wind." Warners' Strand here has completed an engagement of a re-issue combination, "The Sea Wolf" and "The Sea Hawk."

The Victoria turned to Alexander Korda's "Jungle Book," first shown here five years ago, to replace "The Patient Vanishes," when the latter, shown here for the first time, closed last week.

Twentieth Century-Fox recently experimented with a return of "Alexander's Ragtime Band" to the Roxy.

Lack of first-run product forced the Rialto to book "Isle of the Dead" and "Body Snatchers" after both had played the neighborhood spots. Now at the theatre is a new Western, "Bad Man from Red Butte," coupled with "The Killers," which recently made the rounds of subsequent situations.

While none of the first-runs here actually have been forced to change operating policy to subsequent or re-issue product permanently as yet, some exhibitors here foresee a decrease in the number of Broadway outlets, now totaling 18.

Favorite Gets Two

Favorite Films, through its president, Moe Kerman, has completed arrangements with Arnold Productions for re-distribution rights to "Hangmen Also Die," starring Brian Donlevy, and "It Happened Tomorrow," starring Linda Darnell and Dick Powell.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

Weekend weather was hot and humid with occasional showers. Grosses were generally uneven. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 10-13:

CALCUTTA (Para.)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)

KING OF THE WILD HORSES (col.) and LANDRUSH (Col.) — RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $1.500. (Average: $1,600)

TEXAS WILDCATS (Popular) and TRAPPED (Popular)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,100)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,500)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox) — RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000)

LOVE AND LEARN (WB)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,000)

HONEYMOON (RKO Radio)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000)

SALT LAKE CITY

With weather unsettled and the continued competition of the Mormon "Centennial Celebration" which opened officially this week, first runs are holding up to and above average. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 12:

THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.) —CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,600)

HARD BOILED MAHONEY (Mono.) and QUEEN OF THE YUKON (Mono.) — LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c). With vaudeville. Gross: $8,000. (Average $3,850)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox) —RIALTO (800) (20c-55c-75c). On a moveover. Gross: $3,700. (Average: $3,700)

TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) — STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $4,800)

MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M) and UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $7,900. (Average: $5,900)

THE WICKED LADY (U-I) and MICHIGAN KID (U-I)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,300)

MPTOA, ATA

(*Continued from page* 1)

Ways and Means Committee before which both Ted R. Gamble, ATA board chairman, and Julian Brylawski, vice-president of MPTOA, appeared on May 28.

ATA has underway a canvass of its directorate on the manner and method of tax reduction held most favorable, with the majority of those who already have answered advocating the exemption of all taxation on admissions under 40 cents, and a tax scaled upward commensurate with the ticket price, but not to exceed 10 per cent.

NY Owners Protest Yonkers 5% Tax

Representatives of exhibition in New York in a meeting here yesterday at the office of Oscar Doob, Loew Theatres executive, drafted a letter of protest against a proposed five per cent admission tax in Yonkers to be sent to members of the Yonkers city council and other officials.

The letter, signed by managers and owners of Yonkers theatres, charges that the tax, proposed by the city manager, would be discriminatory in that it would single out film theatre patrons for "class taxation." In its last session, the New York State legislature enabled cities to impose additional taxation up to five per cent.

The letter cites the present 20 per cent Federal tax in charging unfairness of the proposed measure, asserts that the city manager's estimate of the probable yield from theatres was far too high, and reports declines in theatre business.

Ohio Is Headed for New Local Taxation

COLUMBUS, O., June 9.—Senate taxation committee of the Ohio legislature has voted approval of House bill No. 398, which would repeal the state's three per cent admission tax and give the taxing privilege to cities. Committee approval carried no top limit on amount of tax cities might levy. Earlier the committee was reported in favor of a five per cent limitation. Passage of the repeal seems certain.

Senate labor and commerce committee has reported for passage of the House Kowalk bill which would relax hours which women and minors may work. Only provision that directly affects theatres is the one that women over 21 may work as ticket sellers after 10 P. M.

Brylawski Requests More Lenient Tax

WASHINGTON, June 9.—Julian Brylawski today asked that district theatres be licensed on a sliding pay scale, with small theatres paying a minimum of $50 for a yearly license, and large theatres paying up to $100.

Appearing before the District License Commission, which has proposed raising theatre licenses from $30 a year to $75 Brylawski, president of the MPTO of Metropolitan Washington, declared that such a flat raise would discriminate against small theatres. Brylawski also asked for a ceiling of $150 on legitimate theatre licenses. The commission has proposed raising them from $50 to $450.

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ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

JUNE 24 - 25 - 26, 1947

28th ANNUAL CONVENTION

Theatre Equipment Show

and

TESTIMONIAL BANQUET

to

JACK KIRSCH, National President

ALLIED STATES ASSOCIATION
OF MOTION PICTURE EXHIBITORS,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

New York Headquarters:—

ALLIED THEATRE OWNERS OF NEW JERSEY, Inc.
234 West 44th Street, New York 18, N. Y.

E. THORNTON KELLEY, Convention Manager

$10,000 from Seven For College Fund

"Dignity, liberty and tolerance still remain largely unachieved goals for too many people all around the world," Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, said in making an industry gift of $10,000, announced yesterday to the 1947 campaign of the United Negro College Fund on behalf of seven companies.

"The very existence of this fund is a credit to our American democracy," he added. Companies participating in the contribution are Columbia, Loew's, Paramount, RKO-Radio, 20th Century-Fox, Universal, and Warner Brothers.

20th, Para. Quit Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

representative, was named president of the proposed partnership, and Daniel Frankel, who resigned as vice-president of Four Continents Films, was designated general sales manager of the planned unit which was to have been established on a 50-50 ownership basis for the distribution of the respective companies' narrow-gauge films to those parts of foreign countries which, because of lack of equipment and facilities, are not now reached by standard product. Silverstone declined to comment on the abandonment of the project other than to say that his office is awaiting the return here this week from Hollywood of Spyros P. Skouras, 20th-Fox president, for information.

The proposed corporation had been in preparation many months before formation reached the point last April where Silverstone and Frankel were named to their posts. Signing of a contract, however, is said to have been held up because of legal difficulties arising from the pooling of facilities.

Aim to Avoid

(*Continued from page* 1)

against various theatre-holding injunctions against the five exhibitor-distributor defendants, as well as various distribution injunctions against all eight companies.

Among the latter to be considered are minimum price-fixing, the reasonableness of clearance and how it is determined, franchises, master agreements, formula deals, block booking, blind selling, competitive bidding and arbitrary refusal of reasonable-run demands by exhibitors.

Levine Gets Another

Martin Levine, head of Distinguished Films, importer and distributor of foreign language pictures, has acquired American and Canadian rights to a new Italian film, "Vengeance," starring Anna Magnani, of "Open City." It will have an American premiere simultaneously at Brandt's Apollo, here, and Atlantic Playhouse, in Brooklyn, in the Fall, following editing and titling by Walter Klee.

New Firm Operates Two

CHARLOTTE, June 9.—Union Theaters, Inc., was granted a charter by the Secretary of State in Raleigh. Authorized capital stock is $100,000, with R. F. Pinson, Walter Pinson and John Newitt, all of Charlotte, listed as subscribers. The concern was chartered to operate the Morris Field Theater, here, and the Waxhaw Theatre of Waxhaw.

Review

"Seven Keys to Baldpate"

(RKO Radio)

THE title of this Herman Schlom production of Earl Derr Biggers' serio-comic mystery is bound to be widely recognized, and should serve to compensate measurably for an absence of top-flight marquee names. Not only was the book a "best seller," but it was adapted to the screen previously, four times. The current screen version, directed by Lew Landers, offers, as written by Lee Loeb, a pleasing blend of excitement, suspense and chuckles which should provide customers with a diverting hour's entertainment.

Phillip Terry is cast as the novelist who goes to isolated, eerie-looking Baldpate Inn to write a novel in 24 hours on a bet, and finds himself subject to repeated interruptions, some caused deliberately by Jacqueline White, in the role of the pretty secretary of the friend who took Terry's bet; others caused by the intrusion of gangsters who choose the site as a post-robbery meeting place. Terry does not win his bet, but he does win Miss White and succeeds in effecting capture of the crooks who shoot it out among themselves in an argument over division of the loot. Performances are adequate in a cast which includes also Eduardo Ciannelli, Margaret Lindsay, Arthur Shields, Jimmy Conlin, Tony Barrett, Richard Powers and Jason Robards.

Running time, 68 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Theatres Undamaged In Mid-West Flood

Kansas City, Mo., June 9.—As far as could be determined today, no theatre section of town has been inundated nor any theatre forced to close on account of the flood in this exchange area. In several instances express shipments of film had to be re-routed by way of truck delivery service requiring, in some cases, short detours. A theatre manager in Iowa drove to Kansas City, for instance, for films.

ATA Intervention

(*Continued from page* 1)

tribunal, charging the ATA group was without legal right and that intervention only was allowable with the consent of the Attorney-General.

ATA, CSA and SCTO have returned with arguments, defending themselves against the attack by the five, with a new brief filed in the Supreme Court. ATA claims that in the event a court decree did not exist, the "petitioners would have a clear legal right to enjoin a plan for concerted action to enforce competitive bidding which the decree attempts to legalize." One precedent is cited.

As for the necessity of the Attorney-General's approval of the intervention petition, the organizations claim that such power in the equity case is not left to public authorities, that "intervention in such cases is not permissive."

High Court Delays

(*Continued from page* 1)

to recess for the summer after next Monday's session but court officials declare that the schedule is still so crowded that it may not adjourn until the end of the month. The justices usually like to dispose of all pending cases before recessing.

Another expected decision which was not forthcoming today was the court's finding in the Petrillo case, in which the Government is seeking to reverse the decision of a lower court holding the Lea Act unconstitutional.

Nationalism Abroad

(*Continued from page* 1)

managing director of 20th Century-Fox International in Great Britain, and Mrs. Bolle; Boris Morros, producer, and Dr. George Gallup, public opinion statistician.

Dietz observed that the British discuss films more than Americans do, and that they are more critical in their judgment of American films than Americans are in their judgment of British films. There is some "slight disappointment" felt by the British about the number of dollars being brought into the country by British film exports, he added.

3 Planned in England

M-G-M studios in England will be ready in the fall, and the company will make three pictures there.

Dr. Gallup said that his Audience Research, Inc., will be operating in England in a few months for American clients who include Walt Disney, David O. Selznick, RKO Radio, Samuel Goldwyn, Columbia and Universal. He has also established a research affiliate in France.

Dr. Gallup disclosed that he launched a study in England of film audiences and will check the sex, income and urban and non-urban groups. It will also survey theatre admission prices, and audience reactions to them. The British study will be completed in about one month.

"The British people, in proportion to their income, spend more on pictures than do Americans, in proportion to their income," Dr. Gallup commented. The British, generally, believe the story is more important than the stars in a picture, he added.

Wider Research in U. S.

Dr. Gallup revealed that he plans to extend audience research to largest key cities in the U. S. to determine the extent of publicity penetration and other problems.

Nathan said that he would confer with George Weltner, president of Paramount International, and after a Hollywood visit, will return to Paris, in about six weeks. Commenting on a visit to the film festival in Brussels, Nathan hailed it as "one of the most outstanding events." He added that before Paramount decides to participate in the Venice film exposition, it wishes to study the pending 1947 film agreement with Italy.

Advises Against Cuts

(*Continued from page* 1)

such variances is a change in geographical distribution of income and a postwar shifting of population," Carroll said.

"From several sources we have read opinions that first-run business was off because people were seeking bargain second-run admissions," Carroll reported. "Yet, first-run reports from large cities show that in one instance business was off 30 per cent, and up 20 per cent in another. One second-run situation shows an improvement of 33 per cent, while another shows a drop of 30 per cent.

"Another indication that the answer is not in admission prices alone, is that of two first runs-runs charging the highest admission reported, one is running exactly even with last year, and the other is operating at 30 per cent less than last year.

"Of two first-runs having the lowest admission price, one is 32 per cent ahead of the comparable period for the last year, and the other is 17.3 less than a like period of a year ago. One first-run situation that has made no increase in admission prices since 1943 reports 105 per cent for the first quarter of 1947, 85 per cent for the month of April and 75 per cent for the first part of May."

Taking two theaters charging the highest prices in medium-sized towns, the report found business up two per cent at one and down 20 per cent at the others. In towns of less than 3,500 population, theaters reporting the highest and lowest admission prices both were off two per cent. The greatest increase reported for all types of situations was 36 per cent, and the greatest decrease 30, per cent.

"One apparent conclusion would be that if you are facing the problem of doing less business at the box office, be hesitant to find the solution by reducing ticket prices," the report concluded.

Percentage Suits

(*Continued from page* 1)

RKO, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists, Universal and Warner Brothers against Walter Leverette, individually and doing business under the name of Leverette's Interstate Theatres. Also named as defendants are Lithia Investment Co., Inc., and George A. Hunt Theatres, Inc. These are the first percentage suits brought in the area served by Portland exchanges.

The suits resemble various other actions pending in other parts of the country, each complaint alleging a conspiracy in submitting reports of admission receipts in order to pay smaller percentage license fees than due, and to secure lower rates on subsequent percentage and flat rental films. Theatres involved are: Varsity and Lithia in Ashland; Holly, Roxy, Craterian and Rialto in Medford, and the Broadway and Shasta in Yreka, Cal., and the Weed in Weed, Cal.

The theatres recently were reported sold, prior to the filing of the suits, to Oregon-California Theatres, Inc., controlled by Robert L. Lippert. Present owners of the theatres are not involved in these actions.

The attorneys signing the complaint for each distributor are Robert F. Maguire and James J. Kennedy of the Portland law film of Maguire, Shields and Morrison, Sargoy and Stein, New York law firm, is named as associate counsel for the plaintiffs.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 113 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 1947 TEN CENTS

$14,695 Gross Averaged at Key-City Runs

Leveling-Off Process Is Extended By Weather

As the industry came to accept currently declining box-office activity as essentially a settling back to normal after the inordinately lush business period born of the war, the weather last month—sometimes too inclement, sometimes especially conducive to out-door pursuits—opened the way for a sharper-than-usual dip in theatre grosses, according to reports on some 170 key situations received from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents.

The weekly average gross for May dropped to $14,695 from the previous month's $16,292, and compares with a weekly average gross of $16,316 recorded for the fifth month of last year.

Meanwhile, "The Farmer's Daugh-

(*Continued on page 7*)

CEA Group Attacks Anti-U. S. Program

By PETER BURNUP

EASTBOURNE, Eng., June 10.—A bitter attack on the anti-American film advertising campaign conducted by the British Film Producers Association was made here yesterday by the legal parliamentary finance committee of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association at the second day's session of the CEA's current general meeting. Some 300 British exhibitors attended.

The BFPA advertising campaign has been criticized previously, but never as violently as it was yester-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Midwest Group to Dinner for Kirsch

Four special cars carrying a delegation of exhibitors from Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois, will leave Chicago on June 23 for the Atlantic City convention of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey and the testimonial banquet to Jack Kirsch, national president of Allied, which will be held at the Ambassador Hotel at that

(*Continued on page 8*)

Walsh, O'Brien Map Technicians' Deal With Other Nations

Having reached "complete agreement in principle" on the exchange of British and American technicians, Richard F. Walsh, international president of IATSE, and Tom O'Brien, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes, London, are considering extension of such an agreement to other countries.

Walsh and O'Brien, who will sail today for England aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth,* discussed the agreement yesterday at a joint press interview here.

The two have already considered the extension of the agreement, and are expected to develop the plan while abroad. In England, where Walsh will remain one month, the IATSE

(*Continued on page 8*)

Week in Field for Each Century Head

In an effort to avoid what was described as "ivory-tower" operation, and as a "refresher course" in the day-to-day problems confronting managers, plus the chance to "meet the public," all Century executives and department heads will spend one week each year in a theatre, according to Fred J. Schwartz, vice-president of that Eastern theatre organization.

The action came about as a result

(*Continued on page 8*)

Skouras Is Named UJA Drive Leader

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, has been appointed non-sectarian chairman for the industry in the United Jewish Appeal's 1947 drive for $170,000,000, it was announced here yesterday by Barney Balaban, national UJA chairman.

In accepting the post, Skouras asked "all in the industry to do everything in their power to help by contributing beyond ordinary measure."

Five Join in Appeal Plan

In the first of several meetings to be held on appeal strategy, legal representatives of all eight defendant companies in the Government's anti-trust case yesterday reportedly concluded that only the theatre-owning defendants can present a joint defense to the U. S. Supreme Court in order to avoid duplication of appeal arguments.

It was said that the five have the same argument, substantially, on five points involved in the case: a counter-attack of the Government's charges of impropriety in theatre ownership by a producer-distributor; and appeals of the New York Federal Court's injunctions against the continuance of arbitration, minimum price fixing,

(*Continued on page 8*)

French Agree To Remit $11.5 Million

Payment for U.S. Films Will Date from 1940

WASHINGTON, June 10. — The French have agreed to remit to American film companies $11,500,000 from funds previously frozen, the State Department's office of commercial policy reported today.

Included in this overall remittance, which would clear French payments entirely from 1940 through this month, are full remittances for the fiscal year July 1, 1946 to June 30, 1947, the first year of the Blum-Byrnes accord. The French had at first demanded a $3,000,000 ceiling on remittances for that year and the fiscal year ending June 30, 1948. The question of remittances for '47-'48 will be disposed of when evidence is available of both U. S. film potential dollar earnings and the French financial position, according to George S. Canty, department film advisor.

Canty also pointed out that these agreements, reached by representatives

(*Continued on page 6*)

MPA Takes Stand On Express Rates

WASHINGTON, June 10.—The Motion Picture Association told the Interstate Commerce Commission today that a small increase in Railway Express rates would be justified if service could be improved.

In a statement filed with the ICC for the hearings being held this week on Railway Express's temporary rate increase, the Association stated: "We are firmly of the opinion that there should be a direct correlation between the increase in rates and the improve-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Siritzkys Get US French Film Rights

Exclusive American distribution franchise to all films produced in France by Pathe Cinema, Gaumont and the French government-owned Union Generale du Cinema has been granted Siritzky International, under terms of an agreement signed in Paris,

(*Continued on page 6*)

MPEA in 10 of 13 'War Ravished' Countries

Asks End of U.S. Housing Expediter

Washington, June 10.—The House Appropriations Committee has recommended the abolition of the Office of the Federal Housing Expediter at the end of the month. The agency administers the limitation order on new construction, through which new theatre and other building has been curtailed since after the end of the war.

The screens of only three European countries—Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Russia—remain blacked-out from product of distributor members of the Motion Picture Export Association, "and it is not unlikely that a distribution agreement for the release of U. S. product in both of the former two will be worked out within the next few months."

This is one highlight of a first anniversary report made here yesterday by the MPEA, which also observed that "the USSR is showing increasing interest in exhibiting American pictures and the possibility of an MPEA deal with that country is not

(*Continued on page 8*)

German Film Report Expected Friday

WASHINGTON, June 10.—Full information on German film policy is expected on Friday from Assistant Secretary of War Howard Peterson following his return from Germany. Thursday. He is slated to hold a press conference the following day at which, War Department officials promise, he will answer all questions pertaining to the German film question.

Peterson and deputy chief of the Civil Affairs Division, Brig. Gen. George L. Eberle, are expected to participate in a War Department-industry conference on the subject, but it is extremely doubtful if the meeting will take place before next week. MPA president Eric Johnston will be here for only one day, June 21, before leaving for Europe, and vice-president Francis Harmon is expected to represent the industry.

German Company Starts Work on First Feature

WASHINGTON, June 10.—Germany's first feature film, "Between Yesterday and Tomorrow," has gone into production at Bavaria Filmjunst in Munich with an all-star cast, the Army announced today.

Para. Buys 70,300 Additional Shares

Paramount last month purchased 70,300 additional shares of its common securities to bring its holdings to 335,300 since its stock-buying program was announced by president Barney Balaban to stockholders last November.

Previous monthly purchase totals were: November, 23,000; December, 35,000; January, 38,408; February, 23,792; March, 72,500; April, 72,300.

Closing price for Paramount common yesterday was $25.75.

Griffis Sails Today For Diplomatic Post

Stanton Griffis, newly-appointed American Ambassador to Poland and chairman of the executive committee of Paramount, will sail today for Europe aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth*. He is expected to take over his official duties in Warsaw about July 1.

Griffis has said that one of his chief aims will be to see that all private relief contributed by Americans reaches Poland's needy, "without any leakage or graft."

He will confer with Ambassadors Lewis W. Douglas in London and Jefferson Caffrey in Paris, and will then motor through devastated portions of Europe to Warsaw.

Schine to Greenthal

David Schine, son of Myer Schine, co-owner of Schine Theatres in Upstate New York, has joined the Monroe Greenthal advertising organization, here, for the summer. Now on vacation from Harvard, he will return there in the fall.

Personal Mention

SOL LESSER is reported recovering "satisfactorily" at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, Los Angeles, following a heart attack.

•

DEEMS TAYLOR, president of ASCAP, and his wife will sail on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* today for London where he will attend the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers.

•

ROBERT L. LIPPERT, Screen Guild Prod. executive vice-president, will be in Detroit tomorrow and is slated to return here by Saturday before flying back to Hollywood.

•

ARTHUR F. BALDWIN, National Theatre Supply Co. export manager, has left here for a three-month tour of Latin American branches.

•

E. L. ORNSTEIN and MRS. ORNSTEIN, of Ornstein Theatres in Marengo, Ind., have returned to Marengo following a vacation in Florida.

•

LLOYD RUST, Allied Artists and Monogram franchise holder in Dallas, has returned there from Hollywood.

•

GERTRUDE BUNCHEZ, publicity director for Loew's Theatres, Baltimore, is vacationing in upstate New York.

HERMAN M. LEVY, general counsel of MPTOA, was in New York yesterday from New Haven.

•

SAMUEL N. BURGER, Loew's International sales manager, and DAVID LEWIS, regional director for continental Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, have returned here from a tour of company offices in Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, Belgium and France.

•

ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, New York representative of the Universal-International studio, has returned here from the Coast after a trip to Honolulu with LEO SPITZ.

•

EDWARD D. COHEN, recently appointed 20th Century-Fox's Latin America supervisor, is here from Buenos Aires.

•

CHARLES SCHINE, son of MYER SCHINE, New York State circuit head, and MRS. SCHINE, is to be *bar mitzvahed* Saturday in Gloversville, N. Y.

•

CLAUD MORRIS, Selznick Releasing Organization exploitation manager, left here yesterday on a Midwestern trip.

•

ROY HAINES, Warner Western division sales manager, is on a Midwest trip.

Johnston's European Itinerary Is Set

WASHINGTON, June 10.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, and his party will leave New York June 22 on a flight which will take them on a tour of European capitals, culminating in a stopover at the International Trade Conference in Geneva. Accompanying Johnston will be Joyce O'Hara and Edward T. Cheyfitz, his assistants; Gerald Mayer, managing director of MPA's international division; and Miss Merrie Smith, secretary.

The trip will include a six-day stay at Brussels for the International Film Festival. On July 26 a dinner will be given there for Johnston at which the Prime Minister, the foreign minister and ambassadors of countries represented at the festival will be present.

Johnston's itinerary also includes Paris, Amsterdam, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Oslo, Warsaw and Berlin. He will spend about a week in London, talking with government officials, and will return to New York about July 25.

E-L's Highest Budget

HOLLYWOOD, June 10.—"Rainbow Ridge," in Cinecolor, will carry Eagle-Lion's top budget to date, starting next month at $2,000,000, Bryan Foy, production vice-president disclosed here today. It will be made in Canada, with Albert S. Rogell producing and directing, and David Hersh acting as executive producer.

Marshall Pleads for Information Funds

WASHINGTON, June 10.—Secretary of State Marshall today told the Senate that the Department's overseas information program is "essential to the conduct of our foreign relations," and asked the upper chamber to vote the program the $34,000,000 denied it by the House for carrying on its work during the coming fiscal year.

Testifying before the Senate appropriations committee, Marshall promised that "the program will be carefully administered in the future." He stated that "every effort has been made and will continue to be made to utilize private resources, with the Government filling-in only where private interests do not or cannot undertake the programs."

Marshall told the committee that one way to promote peace is to dispel misunderstandings, fear and ignorance, and that we must broadcast the truth to the world "through all of the media of communication."

In the House, meanwhile, final action on a bill to authorize the overseas information program was again postponed, as opponents of the measure continued attacks on the program.

Memphis Bans 'Verdoux'

MEMPHIS, June 10. — The local board of censors has banned Charlie Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux," because it is "a comedy that makes murder a joke."

Newsreel Parade

HEADING the current newsreel parade is President Truman's reunion with the 35th Division. Other items include coverage of the Midwest floods, graduation at Annapolis and sports. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 82—President Truman in Missouri sounds warning to aggressors. Mississippi Valley floods. Graduation at Annapolis. Crowd of 400,000 sees English Derby. Sweepstakes winner. Jitterbugs dance aboard U. S. carrier in Sydney harbor.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 280—Eisenhower-Truman plea for strong U. S. stirs war veterans. Romance plays star role in graduation at Annapolis. Modern magic in fashions. Forty-to-one dark horse wins Epsom Derby. Irish sweepstakes winner.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 83—Annapolis graduation. Argentina-Brazil display new unity at dedication of international bridge. Midwest floods drive thousands from homes. Truman meets 35th Division war buddies. Epsom Derby upset.

RKO PATHE, No. 85—President Truman attends reunion of 35th Division. The English Derby. Annapolis graduation. Floods rage in Midwest. Presidents of Argentina and Brazil meet at bridge dedication.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 46—President Truman joins his buddies of World War I at 35th Division reunion. Floods and freak twisters wreck homes and devastate wide areas in Iowa and Pennsylvania. Graduation at Annapolis. Willy Turnesa, winner of British amateur golf championship, welcomed in New York. Family peddles 4,000 miles on bicycle built for five. Forty-to-one shot wins the 168th running of the British Derby.

Republic Reception For Roy Rogers

Representatives of the press greeted Roy Rogers, "King of the Cowboys," at a reception which Republic held here yesterday in the Sherry Netherlands Hotel. Rogers is in town for appearances at the Roy Rogers Circus at the Polo Grounds, opening June 15.

Present were: James R. Grainger and Mrs. Grainger; Sidney Myers, assistant managing director of British Lion, and his guests, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Goldsmith; Richard W. Altschuler, Dennis Carlin, Steve Edwards, Evelyn Koleman, William P. Murphy, Nick de Manczuk, John Petrauskas, Jr., Beatrice Ross, Marian Sapp, Milton Silver, Douglas T. Yates, Philo Harvey, Art Rush, Dorothea McAvoy.

ABPC Net Increases To $3,824,696 in Year

LONDON, June 10.—Net profit of Associated British Pictures for the past year rose to £956,174 ($3,824,696), compared to the previous year's net of £650,289 ($2,601,156). The year ended on March 31.

The company recommended a dividend of 20 per cent, making a total of 30 per cent for the year.

Villiers to Coslow

Edward Villiers has been appointed London representative for Sam Coslow, whose current production is "Copacabana," United Artists release. Villiers, well known in British film circles, was formerly head of the British Ministry of War Information.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

"HONEY! It's here! The one picture I've got to see! CLARK GABLE and that gorgeous new star DEBORAH KERR in 'THE HUCKSTERS!' Yes! that's the M-G-M picture of the best-seller that everyone is simply crazy to see. Buy me that, toots!"

"I'll be over in a flash with the cash!"



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GABLE's NEW STAR IS DEBORAH KERR!

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with RON RANDELL
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★ lived by one man . . . and ★
the woman he loved!
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
COLUMBIA

MGM Industry Short Switched to Warner

WASHINGTON, June 10.—Production of the first Motion Picture Association industry short has been switched from M-G-M to Warner Brothers.

Edward Cheyfitz of the MPA, supervising the industry program, said the switch was made with M-G-M's consent when it was discovered that Warner Brothers was already well along with production of a two-reel Technicolor short on the same subject as that planned for the first industry picture—the nation's productive effort.

The Warner film, being produced under supervision of Gordon Hollingshead, is entitled "Power Behind the Nation," and according to the MPA, closely follows the "work-together" theory long preached by MPA president Eric Johnston. Production is so far along, Cheyfitz said, that it is hoped to have a rough cut ready early next month. Distribution details have not been worked out, but probably will be through regular Warner channels.

M-G-M will probably get the nod on the next short, if the MPA series is continued, it was indicated. John Nesbitt, producer of M-G-M's "Passing Parade," was to have supervised production on the M-G-M short.

Kramer to Enterprise Lot for 7 Pictures

HOLLYWOOD, June 10.—A deal for the leasing of space at Enterprise Studios has been concluded here by Screen Plays, whereby the Stanley Kramer organization will move its headquarters this week to the Enterprise lot to launch immediately the first of a program of seven pictures during the next three and a half years.

Kramer's company starts with Ring Lardner's "The Big Town," on a $1,500,000 schedule.

Enterprise Sets Two; Will Start on Coast in the Fall

HOLLYWOOD, June 10.—Two Enterprise productions will go before cameras simultaneously early in the fall, with full writing and producing staffs maintained on the lot through the summer.

The two scheduled are David Lewis' production of Nancy Mitford's "Pursuit of Love" and "Wild Calendar," Ginger Rogers starring. Writer Harry Brown is working on the "Love" script with Lewis. Writer Abraham Polansky will continue to work with producer Wolfgang Reinhardt on "Calendar."

Four for next season's schedule are being prepared, "Cairo Incident," "The Passion of Eugene Arma," an original for Barbara Stanwyck, and "Proud Destiny."

$100,000 Variety Drive

TORONTO, June 10.—The benefit baseball game of the Toronto Leafs in the International League on June 16 for a fund for the establishment of a Variety Village here for the vocational training of crippled children looms already as a financial success. It is the first project of the Toronto Tent, headed by J. J. Fitzgibbons of Famous Players. A drive for $100,000 is underway. At a Variety Club dinner to inaugurate the campaign, close to $10,000 was raised in a few minutes in the sale of baseball tickets.

Government Will List 1,330 Films

Washington, June 10.—Some 1,330 U. S. Government films will be listed in a catalogue to be issued by the Library of Congress in the near future.

Films produced and distributed by 30 agencies will be covered by the listing, which the Library's motion picture division hopes to have ready around the end of the month. The catalogue will be on sale at the Government printing office.

The division has also prepared a four-page brochure, "Directions for Borrowing and Purchasing U. S. Government Motion Pictures," covering 27 agencies.

'Junior' Rates Set For 3 RKO Houses

MINNEAPOLIS, June 10. — RKO's three houses, the Orpheum and Pan in this city, and the Orpheum in St. Paul, today announced that "junior" prices will become effective on June 19, following a similar announcement made earlier by the Minnesota Amusement Co. Independents are moving individually to meet the new price rate taking shape for patrons in the 12-18 age-group, with the Orpheum and Small Pic, Minneapolis, and Ben Berger's circuit expected to fall in line for first runs.

The junior price scale adopted by the three RKO houses and the Minnesota Amusement Co. sets 35 cents for matinees, 50 cents for weekday evenings. On Saturday, Sundays and holidays, junior prices will change at 1 o'clock instead of the 5 o'clock change on weekdays. Adult rates comparatively are 50 and 70 cents. Similar differentials, though not quite as sharp, will operate for stage shows at the Orpheum and MAC's Radio City here, with 50 to 60 cents for juniors against 65 to 85 cents for adults. All prices include taxes.

Republic Signs for British Lion Film

Republic will distribute British Lion's "The Shop at Sly Corner," in the U. S., it was disclosed here yesterday by Sidney Myers, assistant managing director of Alexander Korda's British Lion in London, who concluded the one-picture releasing deal with Republic president Herbert J. Yates this week.

Myers will return to London from New York on Saturday, following a three-week stay in the U. S.

Sir Alexander Korda, British producer, is due to arrive in New York from London by plane before the weekend, Sidney Myers disclosed here yesterday.

Nadel Now Film Critic

COLUMBUS, June 10. — Norman Nadel, music critic of *The Columbus Citizen*, has succeeded Bud Kissel, film editor, who resigned. Nadel will continue to handle music as well as film and legitimate theatres.

Joins in Fight on Chicago Ticket Tax

CHICAGO, June 10.—The Better Films Council of Chicago has joined local exhibitors in their opposition to enactment of a five per cent admission tax by the city.

Letters are being sent out over the signature of Miriam Chesser, president of the Council, urging theatregoers to send letters of protest to Mayor Kennelly and city aldermen.

Morris Leonard, attorney and spokesman for Chicago theatre owners, said today that the admission tax as proposed by the mayor and civic groups last week is unfair to the industry.

"We feel we are being singled out," he said, "and that such a tax will place too great a burden on theatre tickets. Although we are in complete harmony with giving Chicago financial aid, we shall fight this proposal wholeheartedly. We hope for an early meeting with the mayor to continue discussions for finding just means of replenishing the city's treasury."

J. Warren Kerrigan, 67, Dies on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, June 10.—J. Warren Kerrigan, 67, one of the first stars of the silent screen, died of pneumonia on Monday at his home in Balboa Beach.

Services will be held on Thursday at Forest Lawn, here, for Kerrigan, who has been retired since his appearance in "The Covered Wagon." Surviving are a sister, Kathleen, and three brothers, Wallace W., Robert and Edward.

Kerrigan was a part of the beginnings of the industry, going to Hollywood in 1914 and forming his own company, J. Warren Kerrigan Productions, and under that sponsorship starred in several pictures, among them "Captain Blood" and "Samson and Delilah."

Alexander Aronson Dies Here at 62

Alexander S. Aronson, 62, assistant to Gerald M. Mayer, managing director of the international division of the Motion Picture Association, died here yesterday after a long illness.

Aronson had worked in international distribution since 1914. After serving as M-G-M's general distribution representative on the Continent, he went to the Motion Picture Export Association in 1931, working in London. In February of this year, he transferred from the MPEA to the MPA.

He is survived by his widow, Lillian, and by a daughter, Mrs. Harry Galland.

William G. Lyris, 54

HOLLYWOOD, June 10. — Rosary services will be held at Pierce Brothers Chapel here Thursday evening for William G. Lyris, 54, director of National Theatres' and Fox West Coast merchandise departments, who died Monday night in New York. The funeral will be held Friday afternoon from the Greek Orthodox Church of Assumption, with interment in Inglewood Cemetery. His widow and two daughters survive.

FP - Canadian Fetes Ackery in Toronto

TORONTO, June 10.—Ivan Ackery, manager of the Orpheum Theatre, Vancouver, and winner of the Quigley Award for Showmanship, was guest of honor at a luncheon held here by the Toronto office of Famous Players Canadian Corp. J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of the corporation, presented Ackery with a special cash award.

Fitzgibbons warned that the "flush" days are over, and that it has again become essential for theatremen to sell pictures through exploitation. Another speaker was Gordon Lightstone, general manager of Paramount in Canada. Larry I. Bearg, Western division supervisor of Famous Players Canadian, was master-of-ceremonies.

French Agree

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the French government, the American embassy in Paris and the Motion Picture Association, are subject to approval both by the Governments and American film companies.

Although the American companies had demanded a more favorable rate of exchange, the $11,500,000 figure was estimated at the rate of exchange current when the Blum-Byrnes accord went into effect—119 francs to the dollar.

The figure includes all blocked funds in question—namely, for prewar, wartime, North African, OWI and other films. It does not include a small amount, estimated at not over $1,000,000, which cannot be transferred to the U. S. This amount, for films about which the French consider there is some legal question, can be used by U. S. companies for such things as investment in production in France. American companies would then be permitted to retain export revenues in ratio to the amount of their investment.

The overall $11,500,000 figure also includes token payments of 25 per cent of blocked funds which were made to the American companies accepting the French token offer.

Although agreement has been reached to date on these outstanding points, it is expected that negotiations will continue for several weeks.

Siritzky Franchise

(*Continued from page* 1)

it was disclosed here yesterday by Joseph Siritzky, vice-president of S-I. The three French producing organizations, Siritzky said, control 90 per cent of French studios, laboratories and theatres.

Siritzky will import annually under the deal what he described as the 15 "best" French films, and in order to assure playing time for the films in the U. S., the Siritzky organization will acquire additional "art houses" in Washington, Philadelphia, Chicago, San Francisco, Hollywood and New York. These, together with the company's present theatre properties in New York and Boston, will bring to nine the number of French-language film theatres which the company will operate in the U. S. Meanwhile, Siritzky added, the company will open offices in Chicago and Los Angeles.

The Washington theatre, Siritzky said, will be constructed at a cost of approximately $100,000 on a site already selected. The others will cost up to $100,000. All will seat between 500 and 700.

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

PHILADELPHIA

Business continues uneven with new bookings of "High Barbaree" at the Goldman and a double re-issue bill of "Sea Hawk" and "Sea Wolf" at the Stanton drawing well. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 10-12:

THE GUILT OF JANET AMES (Col.)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $9,200. (Average: $13,800)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ARCADIA (900) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 10th week. Gross: $11,100. (Average of regular prices of 50c-94c, $6,600)
DISHONORED LADY (UA)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,300. (Average: $21,000)
I COVER BIG TOWN (Para.)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days. On stage, Vaughn Monroe. Gross: $32,500. **THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)** 1 day. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $31,700)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—FOX (3,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25), 2nd week. Gross: $45,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-94c: $25,000)
HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $27,000. (Average: $24,000)
THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c), 3rd week. Gross: $18,750. (Average: $9,500)
THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio—KEITH (2,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85-94c), 2nd run. Gross: $8,750. (Average: $6,200)
THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c), 2nd week. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $29,500)
CALCUTTA (Para.)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c), 3rd week. Gross: $16,900. (Average: $27,000)
SEA HAWK (WB Reissue) and SEA WOLF (WB Reissue)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $12,700)

CHICAGO

Bolstered by fine weather, business has picked up a bit this week. The Chicago Theatre's "Framed," with Billy De Wolfe and the Mills Brothers on the stage and "Duel in the Sun" going into a fourth week at the State-Lake, are pulling nicely, as is "The Jolson Story," in its 23rd week. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 9-10:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c), 23rd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,000)
FRAMED (Col.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c). On stage: Billy De Wolfe and The Mills Brothers. Gross: $62,000. (Average: $59,000)
CALCUTTA (Para.)—GARRICK (1,000) (55c), 4th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,500)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (95c), 2nd week. Gross: $26,500. (Average: $16,000)
DILLINGER (Mono.)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Standard vaudeville. Gross: $45,000. (Average: $40,000)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—PALACE (2,500) (95c), 2nd week. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $26,000)
THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c), 3rd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $20,000)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (Advanced prices: $1.00-$1.20-$1.50), 4th week. Gross: $48,000. (Average at regular prices: $30,000)
THE SEA OF GRASS (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c), 3rd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,500)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (Advanced prices: 95c-$1.20-$1.40-$1.80), 25th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average at regular admission price of 95c: $17,500)

BALTIMORE

Rain over the weekend retarded business which had gained a substantial start at the openings. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 12:

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—CENTURY (3,000) (90c-$1.25). Gross: $48,000. (Average at regular prices of 29c-37c-46c-54c-56c: $14,000)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,405) (29c-37c-44c-50c), 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,500)
THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—STANLEY (3,000) (29c-37c-50c-58c), 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $16,500)
A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-60c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $17,500)
HONEYMOON (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-44c-56c), 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500)
RAMROD (UA)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c), 3rd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,500)
THIS HAPPY BREED (U-I)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-55c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,000)
HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c and 56c weekends), 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000)

CLEVELAND

"Calcutta" was far in the lead here over the weekend, with all signs pointing to big money at Loew's State. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 10-11:

CALCUTTA (Para.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $22,000)
HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c), 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000)
CITIZEN SAINT (Clyde-Elliot)—LOWER MALL (563) (45c-65c). Gross: $3,400. (Average: $2,500)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c), 4th week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,000)
ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $21,400)
THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) WARNERS HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c), 2nd week on a holdover. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,400)
FRAMED (Col.)—WARNER'S LAKE (714) (55c-70c), 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,600)

INDIANAPOLIS

Heavy rains followed by record heat has handicapped business this week. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 10-11:

TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio) and BLIND SPOT (Col.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c). Gros: $9,500. (Average: $10,000)
HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $15,200)
CALCUTTA (Para.) and BEAT THE BAND (RKO Radio)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c). Moveover from the Indiana. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,500)
THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c), 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,800)
BEDELIA (Eagle-Lion) and IT'S A JOKE, SON (Eagle-Lion)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,000)

BUFFALO

Rainy weather continued to cut into business here. Estimated recipts for the week ending June 12:

THE SEA WOLF (WB) and THE SEA HAWK (WB)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $19,000)
CALCUTTA (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). 2nd week. Gross: $11,400. (Average: $18,000)
HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M) and LITTLE MISTER JIM (M-G-M)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c), 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000)
THE EGG AND I (U-I) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c), 4th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,000)
TEXAS (Col. reissue) and ARIZONA Col. reissue)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $4,800. (Average: $6,000)
HONEYMOON (RKO Radio) and THE DEVIL ON WHEELS (PRC)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c), 7 days. Gross: $15,600. (Average: $16,000)

Key City Gross Reports

(*Continued from page* 1)

ter" moved up to first place as a money-maker, a position held for the past several months by "The Best Years of Our Lives." The former appeared most often as box-office leader in the reports, with "The Egg and I" still holding second place. "The Yearling" and "Duel in the Sun" crowded "Best Years" for third.

Also coming through as weekly leaders in a number of situations were: "Easy Come, Easy Go," "Framed," "The Macomber Affair," "Smash-Up" and "The Two Mrs. Carrolls."

Others which showed well were: "Calcutta," "Bedelia," "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," "High Barbaree," "Accomplice," "The Homestretch," "The Late George Apley," "The Red House," "It's a Wonderful Life," "Johnny O'Clock," "Stairway to Heaven," "The Sea of Grass," "Angel on My Shoulder," "Stallion Road."

Also, "Blaze of Noon," "My Favorite Brunette," "Dead Reckoning," "Nora Prentiss," "Angel and the Badman," "The Web," "The Jolson Story," "Odd Man Out," "The Corpse Came C. O. D.," and the following reissues: "The Sea Hawk" and "The Sea Wolf" as a combination, and "The Great Waltz."

Composite key city box-office reports for 1947 to date, compared with corresponding weeks of 1946, follows:

1947 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 3-4	167	$3,678,100	$22,024
Jan. 10-11	173	3,363,200	19.440
Jan. 17-18	173	3,007,300	17,383
Jan. 24 25	176	3,043,700	17,294
Jan. 31-Feb. 1	181	3,293,600	18,197
Feb. 7-8	177	3,089,600	17,495
Feb. 14-15	177	2,767,900	15,638
Feb. 21-22	182	3,042,700	16,718
Feb. 28-Mar. 1	166	2,800,300	16,869
Mar. 7-8	178	2,906,400	16,328
Mar. 14-15	174	2,890,300	16,610
Mar. 21-22	173	2,922,900	16,895
Mar. 28-29	178	3,069,500	17,245
April 4-5	179	2,838,800	15,859
April 11-12	184	2,239,500	17,606
April 18-19	177	2,973,400	16,798
April 25-26	183	2,917,900	15,945
May 2-3	177	2,699,800	15,253
May 9-10	175	2,578,100	15,732
May 16-17	176	2,650,400	15,059
May 23 24	169	2,369,100	14,018
May 30-31	173	2,590,100	14,972

1946 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 4-5	142	$3,304,300	$23,270
Jan. 11-12	144	2,940,100	20,417
Jan. 18-19	150	2,706,300	18.040
Jan. 25-26	158	2,800,100	17,722
Feb. 1-2	157	2,227,000	18,390
Feb. 8-9	158	2,798,300	17,756
Feb. 15-16	159	2,755,400	17,330
Feb. 22-23	156	2,638,200	16,918
Mar. 1-2	164	2.106.000	18,939
Mar. 8-9	163	2,926,600	17,955
Mar. 15-16	154	2,818,800	18,304
Mar. 22-23	165	2,981,100	18,067
Mar. 29-30	167	2,810,300	16,828
April 5-6	170	2,908,100	17,106
April 12-13	165	2,845,300	17.244
April 19-20	161	2,694,600	16,737
April 26 27	164	3.187,000	19,433
May 3-4	162	3,025,400	18,675
May 10-11	144	2,409,700	16,734
May 17-18	150	2,526,500	16.843
May 24-25	152	2,406,500	15,832
May 31-June 1	130	2,058,200	15,855

Two WB July Releases

"Possessed," Warner Brothers' will be issued for general release on July 26, making two productions to be released by the company next month. The other is "The Unfaithful," dated for July 5. "Possessed" is playing a pre-release engagement at the Hollywood Theatre here, while "The Unfaithful" will open on June 27 at the New York Strand.



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Agreement Near in 'Lab' Wage Talks

An agreement has been "pretty well worked out" between laboratory workers Local No. 702, IATSE, and representatives of 16 film laboratories here, Richard F. Walsh, international president of IATSE, disclosed yesterday. Nearly 2,000 technicians are affected.

Walsh revealed that he participated in negotiations which began Monday at noon here and which ended at 3 A.M. yesterday. He said that he expected details will be available in about one week. The percentage of wage increase is believed to be about 25.

Walsh intervened after company and union representatives reached a deadlock two weeks ago. Local No. 702 had sought parity with Coast Laboratory technicians. The union's original demand was for a 41 per cent average increase.

Dinner for Kirsch

(*Continued from page* 1)

resort on June 24-26. This group will accompany Kirsch to the convention, it was revealed yesterday by Edward Lachman, New Jersey Allied head.

Included among additional acceptances to attend the convention and dinner are: Andy Smith, general sales manager, 20th Century-Fox; David Palfreyman, Motion Picture Association; Harry Brandt, president of the Independent Theatre Owners of New York; Jack Levin, vice-president of Confidential Reports; Sam Rinzler, Randforce Circuit; Fred Schwartz, Century Circuit; Hugh Owen, Paramount; Sam Shain, 20th-Fox; Maurice (Red) Kann, Quigley Publications; Sherwin Kane, MOTION PICTURE DAILY; Malcolm Kingsberg, RKO Theatres.

Also, Sol Schwartz, RKO Theatres; Sam Frank, New Jersey; Jack Ellis, United Artists; Fred Myers, Universal; Harry Waxman, New Jersey; Jay Emanuel, Philadelphia; Charles (Chick) Lewis; C. E. Peppiatt, Philadelphia; Sam Gross, Philadelphia.

Also James Jerauld; Earl Sweigert, Paramount; W. A. Prewitt, New Orleans; Morris Finkle, Pittsburgh; Al Piccoult; Moe Wax; Morton Sunshine, and Henry Randel, Paramount.

Express Rates

(*Continued from page* 1)

ment of service." The statement pointed out, however, that if a large increase were granted, motion picture companies would doubtless resort to other means of transportation for industry products.

No exact figure is available as yet on the extent of the rate increase, which went into effect last December. MPA conservation director John B. McCullough, who filed the statement on behalf of the Association, estimated that the experimental rate was approximately 20 per cent higher than the former rate. This week's hearings are for the purpose of determining whether the temporary increase will be made permanent or whether there should be a further increase over the present one.

MPA's statment pointed out the fact that Railway Express film shipments take considerably more time now to reach points of destination than before the war and that often a shipment is not intact when it arrives.

Technicians' Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

head will confer with other theatrical union leaders, and will make a first-hand survey of conditions in studios and theatres. Upon his return, Walsh will submit the exchange agreement on British and American technicians to the 'IA' executive board for approval, while O'Brien will follow suit with the NATKE executive board.

Walsh disclosed that he and Dan W. Tracy, head of the AFL electrical workers union, have been reviewing various jurisdictional agreements, in efforts to solve the Hollywood studio strike and other jurisdictional problems, and will submit their findings in mid-summer to the full AFL five-man committee set up by AFL president William Green. The committee, of which Walsh is chairman, will then present its findings to heads of 12 AFL international unions.

"There is a feeling among British technicians that American technical personnel are going over there too easily," O'Brien said. "They feel that there is really no need for so many, particularly among players. They feel also that Americans can enter with greater facility than British technicians can get to Hollywood. A balance has got to be drawn somewhere."

Walsh said: "I want to take a look and see whether the studio situation balances. I can't say whether he (O'Brien) is right or wrong, but I think he has a fair thought there."

O'Brien said that his union had 7,000 workers in production, compared to IATSE's 16,000.

O'Brien disclosed that a jurisdictional agreement will be signed on June 23 between NATKE, the Association of Cinema Technicians and the Electrical Trades Union. ACT has between 4,000 and 5,000 members, O'Brien added.

CEA Group Attacks

(*Continued from page* 1)

day. The vehemence of the attack was undoubtedly increased in view of the absence of the press. All of the committee members protested against the campaign conducted by Sir Henry French, BFPA's director general.

Charges included the following quotes: "an unscrupulous, insidious comparison between British and American films to the latter's detriment"; "the BFPA is cynically endeavoring to influence editorial opinion at a moment when Anglo-American relations must necessarily be retained at the highest mutually understanding level"; "this campaign is just an example of the unprecedented and unjustified selfishness of the producers at the exhibitors' expense, but it is obviously doomed to disaster."

It was suggested that J. Arthur Rank should remove French from his post.

The committee pointed out in a report that the BFPA's campaign was actually directed at 80 per cent of the independent exhibitors' programs and it emphasized that if American screenings here are to be cut substantially, the whole industry—producers, distributors and exhibitors—would inevitably fold.

WE Dividend

Western Electric's board of directors yesterday declared, from surplus profits, a dividend of 62½ cents per share on outstanding shares of capital stock. The dividend is payable on June 30, to stock of record on June 24.

$400,000 Studio Is Underway in Ireland

By TOM SHEEHY

DUBLIN, June 5 (*By Airmail*).—A $400,000 Irish film studio is under way here. All equipment necessary for a laboratory, studio and sound stages has been ordered and much of it has been delivered.

Responsible for the new studio are three men prominent in Dublin film circles: Pat Farrell, managing director of Capitol and Allied Theatres, Ltd., and this year's recently-elected president of the Theatre and Cinema Association of Ireland; George Fleming, a director of Capitol and Allied Theatres, and Bob O'Flanagan, well-known industry businessman.

The studio will be available for use of visiting or local producers and the owners will produce there newsreels and short subjects until they undertake more ambitious productions.

Week in Field

(*Continued from page* 1)

of floor discussion at Century's second open-forum, held here yesterday at the Waldorf-Astoria, attended by managers of the company's 37 theatres, their district managers, and home office executives and department heads.

"A week each year in a theatre will be of value to all of us," Schwartz declared. "Even with frequent visits to the houses to observe their operation, it is my feeling that home office personnel have a tendency to become remote from the 'firing line'."

The danger in what he termed "ivory tower" operation, Schwartz pointed out, was that home office officials are concerned with the "theory of supplying marketable motion picture entertainment," whereas the men in the field are in direct contact with the public temper and are able "to read it first-hand."

Schwartz continued, "We must make opportunities to watch the public buy their movies, and make an effort to gauge their likes and dislikes, so that we may select and present our shows more intelligently.

"By viewing hour-to-hour efforts of managers we would be in a position to know exactly what to expect from them in the time they have available. In this way," the Century vice-president concluded, "we would be less likely to make unreasonable demands of the men."

Appeal Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

certain run and clearance practices and theatre expansion.

United Artists, Universal and Columbia in all likelihood will present individual appeal briefs to the high court, although perhaps will endeavor to cut to a minimum arguments which the five either jointly or individually will cover in their briefs.

While no definite plans have been formulated, the five companies are considering one joint brief for the high court in which they would cover the points previously mentioned, and then file separate briefs presenting their individual stands on other parts of the decision and the decree. An alternative to this, also proposed, would have each of the five presenting an all-inclusive argument on each of the five points in question, all of them filing separate briefs.

N. Z. Industry Faces State Control Probe

By CLIFF HOLT

SYDNEY, June 3 (*By Airmail*).—The New Zealand Government has prepared an order to conduct an inquiry into the film industry, with a view toward determining whether some form of state control is desirable.

Although an overwhelming majority of exhibitors and all distributors are opposed to the inquiry, the industry hesitates to agitate against it because it fears a suspicion might be aroused that it has something to hide. General trade opinion is that the investigation will prove an unnecessary expenditure of taxpayers' money and that there is nothing going on in the industry which legislation will cure.

Meanwhile, the Independent Cinemas Association of New Zealand has advocated a political investigation into its proposals for the grading of films and for amendments to the standard distribution contract. By enlarging the scope of its investigations, the government has gone further than the ICA anticipated.

Political "kites" flown by the newspaper, the *Standard* generally regarded as speaking for the government, declares that independent exhibitors gradually are being forced out of business by the circuits. The *Standard* wants state control of distribution and the formation of a group to supervise importation and distribution and, further, wants films allocated to theatres by a zoning system. This group would include representatives of exhibitors and distributors and government nominees.

MPEA in 10 Countries

(*Continued from page* 1)

too remote." Hollywood films "now flourish" in 10 of 13 war-ravaged countries of Europe and Asia, "despite a maze of postwar obstacles," it was said.

The project, chartered in June, 1946, marks the first time in the history of the American film industry that the major companies have banded together on a joint merchandising enterprise of such broad scope. Closely linked with the MPEA are the names of Eric Johnston and Francis Harmon, MPEA president and vice-president, respectively, and Irving Maas, vice-president and general manager.

In its first year, MPEA has concluded distribution agreements in Czechoslovakia, Poland, Holland, Rumania, Hungary, the AMG and British zones in Germany and Austria, Netherlands, Dutch East Indies, Japan and Korea.

MPEA has set up in each of the countries in which it operates full staffs, managed by distribution executives, the majority of whom were loaned or acquired by arrangement with member companies.

New Philco Video Set

PHILADELPHIA, June 10.—Philco has introduced its first commercial television receiver, which provides a 10-inch picture tube, according to James H. Carmine, vice-president in charge of merchandising. "In presenting the first Philco television receiver ever offered to the public," Carmine said, "we are concentrating sales and installations in the Philadelphia area for the present."

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 114 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 1947 TEN CENTS

UK Exhibitors Would Aid a Pro-US Stand

CEA Urges Countermove As It Again Hits BFPA

By PETER BURNUP

EASTBOURNE, Eng., June 11.—If the British Film Producers Association continues its anti-American film advertising campaign, the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association will consider devising a counter theme for delivery to the British public by way of theatre screens, it was decided here by the CEA general council today at the CEA's current general meeting.

This decision climaxed strong condemnation by the CEA general council of the BFPA's attitude in boosting British films by disparagement of American product. Several delegates took the floor to urge public empha-

(*Continued on page 7*)

U-I, Rank in Talent Interchange Deal

J. Arthur Rank, now on the Coast, and Universal-International have set a talent interchange deal, covering not only stars and directors, but also lesser known players who will be exchanged as part of an international program for "building-up" film personalities throughout the world.

Marking the first move in a series

(*Continued on page 7*)

Cal. Theatre Group Backs ATA Tax Plan

San Francisco, June 11.—Falling in line with the American Theatres Association emphasis on reduction rather than elimination of Federal admission taxes, the board of directors of the California Theatres Association, in a telegram to Si Fabian, ATA president, has endorsed ATA's suggestion for a one-cent tax on every 10 cents admission, or "major fraction thereof," and for elimination of the tax on children's admissions.

Confirm BOT Backs Quota Retention

Eastbourne, Eng., June 11.—W. R. Fuller, secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association, today confirmed reports that the British Board of Trade will recommend retention of the renters quota in the forthcoming quota act, as published by *Motion Picture Daily* on June 2.

The BOT, he said, will call for a sliding scale of quota percentages to be fixed annually by the BOT president.

Para. Branch Sales Meets Start Monday

A series of Paramount branch meetings, centering about final preparations for the company's 1947 "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership" drive, will be held throughout the country by Harold Wirthwein, West Coast district manager and drive captain, beginning Monday, it was announced here yesterday by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution. The sales drive will run from Aug. 31 to Nov. 29. Wirthwein arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast for conferences with Reagan before starting his tour.

The meeting on Monday will be held in Dallas. Other meetings will be held as follows: Oklahoma City, June 19; Memphis, June 20-21; New Orleans, June 23-24; Jacksonville, June 25; Atlanta, June 26-28; Charlotte, June 30-July 1; Washington, July 2-3; Philadelphia, July 5-8; Pittsburgh, July 9-10.

Also, New Haven, July 11-12; Boston, July 14-15-16; Albany, July 17-18; New York, July 21-22-23; Buffalo, July 24-25; Cleveland, July

(*Continued on page 7*)

Luncheon for Smith, Gehring, Moon Here

Andrew W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager; William C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager; division manager Ray Moon, and possibly other newly-promoted officers of 20th Century-Fox, will be tendered a testimonial luncheon by New York theatremen at the Hotel Astor here on June 20.

Harry Brandt is chairman of the committee in charge; Sam Rinzler is co-chairman, and David Weinstock will handle luncheon arrangements.

MPEA Preparing to Operate in Germany

Anticipating that the American Military Government will provide necessary facilities, although this was not expected a short time ago, the Motion Picture Export Association plans to begin distribution of its product in the British and American zones of occupied Germany on July 1, according to the MPEA office here.

Irving Maas, MPEA vice-president and general manager, is expected to confer with War Department and other government officials in Washington next week on the matter.

Upon his return from Germany about two weeks ago, Maas said here he saw no indication that the U. S. Military Government would lend the necessary support to MPEA private operation and declared unless this support, in the form of office space, personnel, and assurance of food for the personnel, were provided, distribution could not be taken up by the association.

Advisers Proposed For Overseas Plan

WASHINGTON, June 11.—House Republican leaders, in an effort to stem a filibuster by opponents of the bill authorizing the State Department's overseas information program, embracing the use of films, radio and printed matter abroad, are considering an amendment to the bill to set up a business advisory council.

The amendment, proposed by Rep. Dirksen, contemplates a 10-man supervisory and policy-suggesting board, including a representative of the motion picture industry.

The GOP leadership now plans to bring the bill up again Friday.

N. J. Allied Report On Ascap This Month

The Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey committee which, with legal advisers, has been studying the advisability of instituting court action to test the legality of Ascap's theatre music tax, will report its findings after the organization's 28th annual convention, to be held June 24-26 at Atlantic City, according to Thornton Kelley, executive secretary. Originally, the committee had intended to make a report at a meeting which was to be held late last month, but the meeting was postponed due to general preoccupation with convention preparations.

The committee's original action followed discussion of a projected increase in the theatre music tax.

U.A. Centers On Connors to Head Company

All Other Deals Held Up for His Decision

Negotiations with Tom J. Connors, former vice-president of 20th Century-Fox in charge of distribution, by which the latter would become president of United Artists, currently supersede all other negotiations which have been undertaken here on behalf of Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin, U.A. owners, it was stated officially yesterday.

Connors, who resigned from 20th-Fox on May 30 and who still is associated with that company in an advisory capacity at a salary of $1,000 weekly, entered into negotiations with Arnold Grant, Miss Pickford's representative here, and Charles Schwartz, counsel and representative for Chaplin last week.

Connors postponed his departure on a fishing trip to Lake o' the Woods, Minn., for two days to confer with

(*Continued on page 7*)

Buffalo MPTO Elects Merritt A. Kyser

BUFFALO, June 11.—Merritt A. Kyser of East Aurora, has been re-elected president and chairman of the board of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Buffalo at a meeting in the Variety Club headquarters.

Others elected are: George J. Gammel, Buffalo, and Sidney L. Gross-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Kans.-Mo. MTA to Meet Sept. 30-Oct. 1

KANSAS CITY, June 11.—The board of directors of the Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association for Kansas and Western Missouri has set the annual convention for Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, at the Phillips

(*Continued on page 7*)

2 Reviews Today

"Fiesta" is reviewed on page 4; "Riff-Raff," page 7. Key city gross reports are on page 6.

Personal Mention

TED R. GAMBLE, circuit operator and American Theatres Association board chairman, is due here Monday from Portland, Ore.

•

KENNETH T. GALLAGHER, son of RAY GALLAGHER, advertising manager of *Motion Picture Herald,* has been awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree, *cum laude,* by Fordham University here, finishing after a three-year interruption for service in the Army Air Force.

•

JAMES WINGATE, one-time director of the motion picture censorship division of the New York State Education Department, has been awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters by Union College, Schenectady, his alma mater.

•

WILLIAM J. KUPPER, recently promoted to managing director of 20th Century-Fox Film, Ltd. of Great Britain will sail for England on July 2.

•

MYRON SIEGEL, assistant to FRED J. SCHWARTZ, Century Theatres vice-president, and MRS. SIEGEL are parents of a son.

•

JEAN PIERRE AUMONT, film actor, who is here from the Coast, will leave for England next week en route to Paris.

•

CHARLES REAGAN, Paramount distribution chief, will visit in Chicago before returning here by the end of the week.

•

GEORGE SCHARF, of the M-G-M legal department here is in Cleveland, from New York.

•

KENNETH MCKENNA is slated to leave the Coast Saturday by plane en route to London.

Advance Settlement Of Piccadilly Suit

CHICAGO, June 11.—Negotiations for settlement of the $6,750,000 anti-trust suit filed by the Schoenstadt Circuit here against major distributors, Balaban and Katz and Warner Theatres on behalf of Schoenstadt's Piccadilly Theatre, are progressing, attorneys here reported today.

Meanwhile, hearing of the action before Master-in-Chancery C. A. McDonald has been postponed to July 10 pending outcome of the negotiations.

New Coates Coast Office

Paul V. Coates Associates, New York public relations and publicity firm, has opened a Beverly Hills, Cal. office, under the personal supervision of Coates.

D. of C. Tax Killed

WASHINGTON, June 11.—A standing vote of the House has rejected a proposed two per cent sales tax for the District of Columbia.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

"THIS is the time for our industry to exert a greater degree of showmanship than ever before. The public is looking for genuine entertainment and only by providing attractions which have the entertainment value it demands can our industry hope to succeed," stated Spyros Skouras in Los Angeles the other day.

Familiar and true, but nonethe-less true because familiar. However, showmanship in production will not be achieved simply by submerging Hollywood in a golden torrent. It's been tried for years. Inadequacies in judgment and deficiencies in thinking cannot be kept afloat on a river of dollars. The challenge put forth by a quickening retreat from the abnormalities of the war-time era has to be met by ability and competence. Indifference and complacency are declining factors in today's market.

■

Indifference and complacency are receding values in exhibition and distribution, too. All hands have been having a five-year binge with all the fun and none of the hangovers. Pictures now will have to be sold, not just made available. They will have to be merchandised, not in the half-hearted manner dictated by short-sighted bookkeeping but yelled about and screamed over. No one is going to get excited without excitement, least of all the exhibitor. If he isn't hopped up on his goods, how can he be expected to needle his audience into response?

You tell us.

■ ■

TREND SPOTTING: "The [British] Treasury Department is planning to reduce the mutual exchange deficiency existing between this country and the United States to $40,000,000 annually, it is reported by an authoritative source. Last year Britain paid America $68,000,000 in rentals."—London dispatch in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, June 3.

". . . British Treasury experts have been at work drawing up a list of imports from the United States that can be limited . . . . Tobacco, films and petroleum goods are only three of the categories thus far definitely marked for drastic slashes. . . . Cuts ranging from 25 to 50 per cent on American films have been suggested."—Charles E. Egan in a London dispatch in the New York *Times,* June 8.

■ ■

These days the very live question of foreign product in this market swirls and eddies around Arthur Rank and his British films which will play more widely in circuit theatres here. Top-line executives are saying so, and they mean it. A slight adventure in back reading, however, brings to light that one of the first to recognize the principle of reciprocity was Bill Rodgers in an address before the SMPE on May 6 last year. He then said:

". . . just as we will send them our product so must we be ready to accept whatever of their products are suitable to our audiences and throw into the discard once and for all that tooold bias against so-called 'foreign' pictures. . . . Any barriers that are erected because of our reluctance to give proper presentation to good pictures, regardless of their source, will only react on the quality of our own production. There is no need for a scientific approach to that one. It is just plain arithmetic."

Plain and correct.

■ ■

Twentieth Century-Fox, with about $18,000,000 in five unreleased negatives, will let loose two as roadshows—"Forever Amber" and "The Captain from Castile." Paramount has about $8,000,000 invested in just two resting in the vaults—"The Emperor Waltz," starring Bing Crosby, and "Unconquered," De Mille's next with Gary Cooper and Paulette Goddard.

■ ■

NO BUSINESS LIKE SHOW BUSINESS ITEM: "The Jolson Story" grossed about $800,000 over the Loew circuit *after* its eight weeks at the Music Hall. It's the biggest attraction in the circuit's history with the exception of "Gone With the Wind" and "Duel in the Sun" both of which ran at advanced admissions. "The Jolson Story," however, played to more people than "Duel."

■ ■

One major distributor, who averages six very handsome figures in rentals every seven days, in one recent week dipped exactly $5,000 under the same week the year before. That's peanuts, son.

'Carnegie' Set for General Release

Back from a two-month tour of Europe, Boris Morros, who produced "Carnegie Hall" with William Le Baron for United Artists release, announced here yesterday that the picture would be put into general release in August. Earlier plans to roadshow it were discarded. The one exception is Boston where it opens Monday for an indefinite run at advanced prices. Asserting that the film is breaking records abroad and in South America, Morros cited as an example the fact that although it will not open in Paris until July 8, it is already sold out for four weeks in advance.

Morros said the British have stepped into the European market and have taken away the American lead. They promote their pictures energetically, he said. The French pre-war lead is gone, he said, giving as one possible reason, the fact that French directors have gone to Hollywood.

"The American industry must unite itself to meet the problem," he continued, saying that "the best insurance is better American pictures, better salesmen and better advertising."

Morros leaves at the end of this week for Hollywood.

'Anna Karenina' Set On Korda Schedule

Alexander Korda's next feature, in England, will be "Anna Karenina," an adaptation of the Leo Tolstoy classic to star Vivien Leigh, the producer said here yesterday upon arriving from London. He added that "Ideal Husband," starring Paulette Goddard, is in production.

Korda said the breach of contract suit filed against him by his former U. S. distribution chief, Laudy Lawrence, was responsible for his visit here. The case goes to trial in New York Supreme Court on Monday.

Brother-in-law of Wehrenberg Dies

ST. LOUIS, June 11.—Funeral services for George W. Foster, business associate and brother-in-law of Fred Wehrenberg, local circuit operator and president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, will be held here tomorrow, followed by burial at Sunset Park.

Foster, who was 68, had been associated with Wehrenberg for 40 years in a managerial capacity, latterly as manager of the Virginia Theatre.

Mrs. Schneck Services

Funeral services were held yesterday at Midtown Chapel here for Mrs. Hannah Schneck, mother of Armand Schneck, president of Madison Pictures, Inc. Mrs. Schneck died Tuesday at the French Hospital here.

Approve Loew's Station

WASHINGTON, June 11. The Federal Communications Commission has authorized construction of a Class B radio station by the Marcus Loew Booking Agency, New York.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

ANN SHERIDAN
LEW AYRES
ZACHARY SCOTT



It's so easy to cry "Shame!"

"THE UNFAITHFUL"

IF SHE WERE YOURS
COULD YOU FORGIVE?

with EVE ARDEN STEVEN GERAY · Directed by VINCENT SHERMAN · Produced by JERRY WALD

ORIGINAL SCREEN PLAY BY DAVID GOODIS AND JAMES GUNN · MUSIC BY MAX STEINER

Warners promise you Something Special to celebrate on the 4th of July!!!!

↗ Opening Ad in big series of magazine announcements appearing soon

Criticizes American 'Paper' as 'Rough'

Film and theatre exploitation in Holland are seriously curtailed by a pronounced paper shortage, a lack of billboard space in cities, curtailment of electric power, and "censorship" by newspapers of publicity copy, it is reported here by Nathan Ehrlich, publicity manager for that country's Tuschinski Circuit, who has arrived in New York from Amsterdam for a four-week visit. By and large, he said, American press sheets, posters and promotional slogans which are sent to Holland are regarded as "too rough, wild or risque" for that country, and are usually changed to conform to native standards.

Theatre business in Holland is good, Ehrlich reports. Pictures of all countries are popular there, where American films are granted 28 weeks playing time under a quota, he said, adding that aside from production of short subjects, there is no native film-making in Holland. Dubbing of foreign product is not popular.

Roach Slates July Tour of UA Branches

Hal Roach, who left here yesterday for Hollywood, will spend July visiting United Artists branches throughout the country in connection with his first postwar production, "The Hal Roach Comedy Carnival."

Roach plans to return to New York on July 7 for further conferences with Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution for U.A.; J. J. Unger, general sales manager, and other top sales executives, at which time the over-all sales policy and the marketing of his product will be set.

Warner Home Office Employes Get Bonus

Warner Brothers home office employes yesterday received the customary mid-year bonus, ahead of schedule. Payments amounted to a week's salary up to $100. The company also distributes bonuses every Christmas.

Warner Outing Today

Warner Club members, totaling about 1,400, will sail up the Hudson River to Bear Mountain today on the club's annual outing. Events include dinner, two baseball games, while dancing and other entertainment will be provided on the boat.

July 15 Deadline for K. C. Flame-proofing

Kansas City, June 11.—Notices have been received by all theatres here calling attention to provisions of the fire code adopted in February by the city, particularly requiring that all decorative material in places of assembly accommodating 50 or more must be flame-proofed by July 15.

Theatres which had not already flame-proofed drapes and hangings have had them treated in the past few weeks or are preparing to do so.

Review

"Fiesta"

(*M-G-M*)

THIS is an attraction undoubtedly heading for wide audience acceptance. "Fiesta", however, could have been better with a story not quite so far-fetched and not so lumberingly and conveniently contrived when it ceases being far-fetched.

But it has wide dabs of arresting color caught by the Technicolor camera of colorful and actual Mexican backgrounds, exciting scenes in the bull ring, some exquisite dancing from the feet of Ricardo Montalban, a good-looking newcomer with more than an average chance for a bright future, along with attractive dark-tressed Cyd Charisse, delightful folk music and generous extracts from Aaron Copland's well-known music score, "En Salon Mexico," adapted and orchestrated by Johnny Green as "Fantasia Mexicana."

It is on the dramatic side, so-called, that "Fiesta" is lack lustre and frequently ponderous. Fortunio Bonanova, famed Mexican matador, is the father of Montalban and Esther Williams, who play twins, and Mary Astor their mother. The boy, as practically anyone will suspect, is headed for bull fighting when actually there is music in his soul. The conflict is about what wins. Montalban finally has his way, but not before the family is practically divided and Miss Williams fantastically retrieves her brother's honor by virtually throwing the bull. That makes it a lot of bull that's thrown and calls for considerable audience indulgence.

The romantic threads are two. One has to do with Montalban and Miss Charisse and the other with Miss Williams and John Carroll whose part makes him out to be a prize nincompoop. Performances are conventional all the way although Miss Williams is pretty sensational in her one-piece bathing togs, which have nothing to do with acting. Direction, insofar as the lame story by George Bruce and Lester Cole allows, is in the same groove as performances at the hands of Richard Thorpe proceeding under the producership of Jack Cummings. But the dances staged by Eugene Loring, the music at the hands of Green and Ted Duncan and the photography by Sidney Wagner, Charles Rosher and Wilfrid M. Cline are stunning.

Running time, 104 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, July, 1947.

RED KANN

New Measure Keeps Theatre Bldg. Curb

Washington, June 11.—House-Senate conferees today agreed on a rent control bill including a provision ending all curbs on commercial construction, with the exception that the Housing Expediter can require a permit for amusement construction if he determines a building material shortage exists or threatens.

Labor, Materials in 'Higher Supply Now'

HOLLYWOOD, June 11.—Theatre construction materials and labor are steadily becoming more available, with the former now being offered on a competitive basis by many sales organizations, according to R. H. McCullough, general purchasing agent for National Theatres, who today wound up a three-day session with the circuit's division purchasing heads.

McCullough also revealed that his unit is developing a new type of acoustical treatment to eliminate plaster entirely, due to the dissatisfaction with plaster. Plaster, he said, makes auditoriums reverberent as it hardens with age.

Buy Into Texas DeVry

CHICAGO, June 11. — Charles Williams and James Rountree have bought into the Texas DeVry distributorship, according to an announcement here by David T. Haines, owner of the Associated Industries Co., distributors here for DeVry. Williams will become office manager and buyer of Associated, while Rountree will be sales manager.

Hamilton Will Direct Industry DAV Drive

Maxwell Hamilton, editor of *Motion Picture Magazine,* has accepted the chairmanship of the motion picture committee of the Disabled American Veterans National Service Fund, it was announced here yesterday.

The committee, now in process of formation, will consist of directors, producers, actors and actresses, and will seek to raise $250,000, its share of the $2,500,000 goal.

Demand for an Equal Number in Spanish

MEXICO CITY, June 11.—The Picture Production Workers Union, Adolfo Fernandez Bustamente, secretary general, is to demand of American companies that make pictures in Mexican studios that for each film in English they must produce one totally in Spanish, of quality and length equal to that of the one in English and employ members exclusively for making the Spanish film.

Set 'Diable' Premiere

Plans for the American premiere of "Le Diable au Corps" ("The Devil Within"), which Paul Graetz produced in France for world release by Universal-International, will be set in Hollywood shortly by Graetz who will leave New York for the Coast tomorrow. Negotiations are being conducted with John Erskine to provide English sub-titles.

The film has been entered in the International Film Festival at Brussels.

Camp for 15 Youngsters

Fifteen under-privileged children are being sent to camps in New York and New Jersey this summer by the Motion Picture Associates, through its camp fund plan, Fred J. Schwartz, president, announces.

Cover Truman Trip In Newsreel Pool

Ottawa, June 11.—President Truman, on his first visit to Canada got complete newsreel coverage on a pool basis for the procession to Government House which followed his arrival in the Canadian capital.

The pool, which was similar to newsreel arrangements for the 1939 visit of King George and Queen Elizabeth, consisted of 10 cameramen—four from Canada's National Film Board, four from Associated Screen News of Montreal and two from New York.

All negatives were assembled immediately after the parade and rushed to New York by plane for distribution to newsreel companies.

Ticket Tax Sought Again for Ontario

TORONTO, June 11.—Undaunted by the successful protests of exhibitors some months ago against his proposal for a municipal amusement tax in Ontario cities and towns, Mayor R. H. Saunders of Toronto has come out again in favor of a city levy on admissions. Speaking before the annual meeting of the Ontario Association of Mayors, Saunders declared that civic financing was inadequate in the face of increased services and rising costs and expressed the view that real estate taxation had reached the saturation point.

At present there is no provincial amusement tax but the Dominion continues to impose an excise levy of 20 per cent on theatre grosses, which had been instituted as a war measure.

More N. Y. Counties Reject New Tax

ALBANY, June 11.—Three more Upstate Republican counties, Schenectady, Wyoming and Chemung, have, through boards of supervisors, voted not to levy special taxes authorized by the Burney bill to meet increased education costs.

The Schenectady board unanimously rejected the emergencies tax. Niagara and Orange counties also reportedly have passed up the taxes. Erie is the only county to date to approve the one per cent sales tax.

Cowdin Group on Taxes Meets Today

WASHINGTON, June 11.—Universal Pictures' chairman J. Cheever Cowdin is scheduled to arrive here tomorrow for the first meeting of a committee of businessmen recently appointed to advise the House Ways and Means Committee on revision of the Internal Revenue code. Cowdin is one of 11 named to the committee, which is headed by former Undersecretary of the Treasury Rosewell Magill.

To Handle Johnson Films

Commander Pictures, Inc., with offices here, has acquired U. S. distribution rights to the Martin Johnson pictures. The first unit show, "Congorilla" and "Borneo", which was originally distributed by 20th Century-Fox, will have a Broadway opening in the near future.





He takes the words right out of her mouth...

BY his interpretive use of equipment —his skill in anticipating motion— the microphone boom man takes the words "right out of the mouth" of actor or actress . . . correlates sound with action so that clarity and proper perspective are always maintained.

Thanks to him, today's motion pictures have the freedom of action which was lost when sound was first introduced on the screen. A great part of the reality which is so essential to a picture's success depends on the boom man's skill and on his close cooperation with the sound mixer.

And equally essential to the boom man's success are superior sound films . . . films which have the quality, so uniformly found in Eastman Films, of assuring faithful reproduction.

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Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Cheyenne" got off to a rousing start in the three Warner houses. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 11:

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) — CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,500)

MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $18,200)

UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M) and MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $18,100)

UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M) and MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $13,300)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $5,900)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $19,800)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) — IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,200)

MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox) and LITTLE MR. JIM (M-G-M) — LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $28,600)

UNDER COVER MAISIE (M-G-M) and MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $22,600)

MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,500)

RAMROD (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,700)

RAMROD (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,400)

RAMROD (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,700)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.) — PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $20,800)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.) and SEVEN WERE SAVED (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $26,600)

SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $16,100)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) — RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $9,600)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) — STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,100)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)— UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $15,800)

MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,200)

CHEYENNE (WB) — WARNER (Downtown)—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $18,200)

CHEYENNE (WB) — WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $15,500)

CHEYENNE (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $14,900)

PHILADELPHIA

Business continued uneven with "High Barbaree" at the Goldman and a double reissue bill of "The Sea Hawk" and "The Sea Wolf" at the Stanton doing well. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 10-12:

THE GUILT OF JANET AMES (Col.)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $9,200. (Average: $13,800)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ARCADIA (900) (Advanced prices: 90c- $1.80) 10th week. Gross: $11,100. (Average or regular prices of 50c-94c: $6,600)

DISHONORED LADY (UA) — BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,300. (Average: $21,000)

I COVER BIG TOWN (Para.)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days. On stage, Vaughn Monroe. Gross: 6 days: $32,500. **THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB).** Gross: 1 day, $3,500. (Average: $31,700)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—FOX (3,000) (Advanced prices: $90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $34,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-94c: $25,000)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M) — GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $27,000. (Average: $24,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $18,750. (Average: $9,500)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) — KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $8,750. (Average: $6,200)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) — MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $29,500)

CALCUTTA (Para.) — STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $16,900. (Average: $27,000)

THE SEA HAWK (WB Reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB Reissue)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $12,700)

KANSAS CITY

Grosses were uneven. It rained during most of the week with good weekend weather tending to draw people outdoors. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 12:

KIT CARSON (PRC Reissue) and THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS (PRC Reissue)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

SMASH UP (U-I)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c). Gross: $1,900. (Average: $1,750)

COPACABANA (UA) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.) — MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000)

CHEYENNE (WB) — NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,000)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) and BIG TOWN (Para.)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)

SMASH-UP (U-I)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c). Gross: $9,500. (Average, under former stage and double feature policy: $9,000)

SMASH-UP (U-I) — UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000)

TORONTO

There was only one holdover among the eight first-runs during the week, with business only on the fair side. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 12:

MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY (Col.) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c), 6 days. Gross: $4,300. (Average: $5,000)

SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c), days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,800)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c), 6 days. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $14,300)

COPACABANA (UA) — LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c), 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $13,800)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c), 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $14,800)

SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,500)

TIME OUT OF MIND (U-I) and LITTLE MISTER JIM (M-G-M)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c), 6 days. Gross: $9,900. (Average: $11,400)

MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY (Col.) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c), 6 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,800)

ST. LOUIS

Grosses continued sluggish during the first hot spell of the season. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 11:

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox) and JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG (20th-Fox) — AMBASSADOR (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $17,000)

BLAZE OF NOON (Para.) and THAT'S MY GAL (Rep.) — FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $19,000)

JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $19,900)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M) and MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M) — LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-60c-75c). On moveover from Loew's State. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,600)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) and THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.) — MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). On moveover from the Ambassador. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500)

CALCUTTA (Para.) and I COVER BIG TOWN (Para.)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c) 4th week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $11,800)

CHEYENNE (WB) and WEB OF DANGER (Rep.)—SHUBERT (2,000) (40c-50c-60c). On a moveover after two weeks at the Fox. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,800)

PITTSBURGH

Summer weather and a strong counter-attraction in the summer Civic Opera's season cut deeply into grosses. Estimated grosses for the week ending June 12:

BOOMERANG (20th-Fox)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,700)

THE GUILT OF JANET AMES (Col.)— J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $11,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE CHASE (UA)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,200)

THE MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION (U-I Reissue) and I STOLE A MILLION (U-I Reissue) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $3,700. (Average: $3,500)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) — STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 3nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $25,000)

HONEYMOON (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $15,000)

DENVER

The "Egg and I" at the Paramount and Esquire, and "Stairway to Heaven" were out in front. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 11:

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,000)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio) and A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio)—BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c) 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $7,000)

BLAZE OF NOON (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 2nd week on "Blaze." Gross: $6,500. (Average: $11,000)

THE RED HOUSE (UA) and CALENDAR GIRL (Rep.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) day-date with Webber. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 2nd week, day-date with Paramount. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $3,000)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M and BANJO (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,000) (35c-74c) Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,500)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 2nd week. Day-date with Esquire. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $8,000)

CHEYENNE (WB) and JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG (20th-Fox) — RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) after one week each at the Denver and Webber. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I) and FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY (Col.)—TABOR (1,967) (35c-74c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE RED HOUSE (UA) and CALENDAR GIRL (Rep.)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c). Day-date with the Denver. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $2,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

Good holdover business was done by "Calcutta" and "The Farmer's Daughter" but grosses generally were below average as the first summer weather drew outdoor crowds. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 12:

THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M Reissue)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,300)

FUN ON A WEEKEND (UA)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: $3,800. (Average: $3,400)

CALCUTTA (Para.)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover from State. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $5,600)

JOHNNY O'CLOCK (Col.) — RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $14,500)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M) — RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 5th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,500)

LOVE AND LEARN (WB)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,000)

ATLANTA

Business was below average here. The weather has been very hot. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 11:

STALLION ROAD (WB) — FOX (4,661) (30c-50c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $19,000)

LOST HONEYMOON (Eagle - Lion) — PARAMOUNT (2,447) (30c-50c). Gross: $7,600. (Average: $7,900)

CALENDAR GIRL (Rep.)—ROXY (2,446) (30c-50c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,700)

THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE (RKO Radio) and LOST FRONTIER URPISING (Rep.)—CAPITAL (2,446) (25c-44c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,200)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M) — LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (30c-50c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $14,000)

11-Million Gross at Buenos Aires Houses

By NATALIO BRUSKI

BUENOS AIRES, June 7. (By Airmail).—The statistical department of Buenos Aires has announced that the total income of the city's theatres amounted to 44,691,321 Argentine pesos, more than $11,000,000, in the last year, when 130,956 screenings were given. The income is 22.4 per cent above that of the previous year.

A total of 564 features were shown, 41 native, the remainder foreign.

The State Department of Information has released figures showing a much greater exhibitor compliance with the law making it obligatory to show Argentine films. For the period from Dec. 4 to Jan. 14 only 15 were complying with the law 100 per cent. For a recent period, 98 exhibitors were complying 100 per cent.

Joaquin Alberto Lautaret, one of Argentina's leading exhibitors, owner of more than 140 theatres in Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay, will visit in the U. S. the latter part of June.

Odeon, Can., Elects Two Vice-Presidents

TORONTO, Ont., June 11.—Leonard W. Brockington of Ottawa, Ont., and George W. Peters of Toronto have been elected to the newly created vice-presidencies of Odeon Theatres of Canada, Ltd., J. E. Lawson, president, announced here today. He also announced that Allan E. Robinette, Toronto lawyer, was elected secretary, succeeding Peters who was formerly first personal secretary to Paul Nathan. Brockington is legal adviser in Canada to J. Arthur Rank.

U-I, Rank Talent

(*Continued from page* 1)

of interchange deals, U-I's director Robert Siodmak will leave immediately for England to direct "Precious Bane" for Two Cities, one of the Rank producing companies.

Rank and U-I jointly stated that further talent interchanges are now being negotiated and will be announced before the British film leader leaves Hollywood on July 9.

"Precious Bane" will star Robert Donat and Ann Todd. Paul Soskin will produce.

Merritt Kyser Elected

(*Continued from page* 1)

man, Syracuse, vice-presidents; Vincent R. McFaul, Buffalo, treasurer; Marian Gueth, Buffalo, Secretary; and Jack A. Read, Gowanda, sergeant-at-arms.

Directors are: C. J. Basil, Lydia J. Behling, William Benton, Henry G. Dillemuth, Gammel, Grossman, Robert C. Hayman, Myron J. Kallet, Matt M. Konczakowski, Kyser, McFaul, Raymond Pashley, Meno Dykstra and Harry Berinstein.

Joe Emerson Named Manager for RKO

DENVER, June 11.—Joe Emerson has been promoted from salesman to manager of the RKO exchange, succeeding Tom Bailey, who is taking an extended vacation before announcing future connections.

Lichtenstein to E-L

Bob Lichtenstein has been appointed to the staff of exploitation manager Arthur Jeffrey at Eagle-Lion here, by Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising, publicity and exploitation. Lichtenstein was for four years with Warner Brothers in the home office and in Cincinnati.

Medal to News-of-the-Day

Mike Clofine, editor-in-chief of M-G-M's News-of-the-Day, will receive the Headliners' Club "Medal of Merit" on Saturday at Atlantic City for "excellent coverage and editing of a major news event by a newsreel." The medal was won by the newsreel's presentation of the railroad strike.

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Review

"Riff-Raff"

(RKO Radio)

GIVEN noteworthy direction, a conventional mystery story emerges as a fresh and interesting motion picture. Under the guidance of director Ted Tetzlaff, suspense piles up neatly, balanced by scattered touches of humor. Still another item making it pleasing entertainment, is a well-rounded cast headed by Pat O'Brien, Walter Slezak and Anne Jeffreys.

O'Brien is cast as an unpolished private detective in Panama, and who, incidentally, has a multitude of side angles for earning an easy extra dollar. When a map, which is the key to some Peruvian wells disappears, representatives of the oil company hire O'Brien to retrieve it. It seems however, that several persons would like to have the map, and for a time business perks up for O'Brien. Pursuit of the map gets O'Brien involved in a couple of murders, a rather vigorous going-over by a toughie, and on a more pleasant level, a friendship with Miss Jeffreys, nightclub singer.

When the Nat Holt production reaches its bang-up finale, O'Brien discovers, as the audience knows all along, that the document is conspicuously posted on a screen in his very room. There then remains for O'Brien, in the Martin Rackin screenplay, to deliver villain Slezak the *coupe de grace*, and walk off happily with Miss Jeffreys. Others in the satisfactorily performing cast are Percy Kilbride, Jerome Cowan and George Givot.

Running time, 80 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

U.A.-Connors

(*Continued from page* 1)

the U.A. representatives on the offer of the company presidency. Originally scheduled to leave New York on June 2, he remained here until June 4. The discussions are scheduled to be resumed following his return to New York in a day or two.

Considerable progress reportedly was made in the preliminary discussions and one semi-official version yesterday was that a draft of a contract is being prepared in Connors' absence, which will be presented to him for study and further discussion on his return. It was said that the contract is for a five-year period at $2,500 weekly with a provision for payment of $40,000 annually for a five-year period thereafter in the event of his death or upon failure to agree upon a new contract.

Connors received $2,000 weekly from 20th-Fox and his contract there provided for a five-year renewal at $3,000 per week in the event he chose to remain, or for $1,000 weekly for five years on his election to assume advisory status. The latter payment would be stopped in the event he concludes the deal with U.A., as his contract provides that he is not to engage in competitive activity with 20th-Fox while on advisory status with that company.

Both Grant and Schwartz were out of town yesterday and could not be reached for comment on whether or not the proposed contract with Connors has been approved by Miss Pickford and Chaplin, or whether Connors will accompany them to the Coast for final discussions with the co-owners of U.A. there in the event an agreement is reached with Connors here.

Meanwhile, official sources take the view that the negotiations by Si Fabian and Serge Semenenko of the First National Bank of Boston for purchase of U.A. are not only dormant but quite unlikely even to be discussed while the negotiations with Connors are in progress.

It was further stated officially that "no firm proposal" for the purchase of U.A. has been received by the company "from anyone." The Fabian negotiations never have advanced beyond the "talk stage," it was pointed out, and there is "absolutely nothing" involving a sale of the company which could be put before the U.A. board of directors at its meeting here this morning. Only routine business is scheduled to come before the board, it was stated, and the routine nature of today's meeting is further indicated by the fact that Schwartz will not attend it.

A published report that Chaplin was prepared to sell his half interest in U.A. to Fabian was discounted in official quarters. U.A. bylaws, it was pointed out, would prevent Chaplin from selling without the approval of Miss Pickford and without first having offered his stock to the company for purchase on the same terms offered him by any other source. Chaplin has not made such an offer to the company, it was ascertained.

Pickford Declines Comment; No Plan for Trip East

HOLLYWOOD, June 11.—Mary Pickford declined comment today on whether Tom J. Connors, former 20th Century-Fox executive, would succeed to the United Artists presidency. She also said she has no immediate plans for a trip to New York.

RCA Promotes Elwes

Herbert C. Elwes has been named manager of commercial sound sales in RCA's engineering products department. He was formerly merchandise manager in the theatre equipment section and assistant sales manager of RCA Photophone.

Two Win Film Awards

HOLLYWOOD, June 11.—Film players Maureen O'Sullivan and J. Carroll Naish have received the Catholic Film and Radio Guild awards as the outstanding Irish character actress and actor of the past year.

Weiss & Geller Named

Weiss & Geller, New York, has been named to handle the advertising account for Howard Hughes Prod. and his California Pictures Corp., Harry L. Gold, general manager of distribution for Hughes, announced.

ARI for Enterprise

HOLLYWOOD, June 11.—Enterprise Productions today disclosed that it has contracted for the services of Audience Research, Inc., with its "Arch of Triumph," the first picture to be subjected to tests.

UK Exhibitors

(*Continued from page* 1)

sis of the fact that Hollywood is giving Britain 80 per cent of its pictures, the essence of the British exhibitors' livelihood. BFPA's argument that if film imports are reduced progress will still be possible with reissues, was held by several exhibitor spokesmen to be absurd since, they held, dollar outflow is still implied.

"BFPA is placing a false value on British pictures by implying that all British films are good and all American pictures are bad," said one speaker. "Pictures make money," he continued, "according to their merit, whatever their origin. We are in show business—let's act as showmen, not as propagandists."

When the general council decided to consider a campaign to counter BFPA's, a number of delegates advised against dragging the controversy into theatre programs, arguing that theatres exist for entertainment only and that the question is one for battling backstage."

Other criticisms of BFPA's campaign included: "If exhibitors fall for BFPA's specious propaganda, not only they, but the general public, are fated to defend an abyss of entertainment boredom spelling the finish of motion picture enterprise here." . . . "The British public is doomed to a terrific wave of disappointment if they believe all BFPA says." . . . "Hollywood pictures are still our mainstay —we ought to boost, not curse, it."

Kans.-Mo. MTA

(*Continued from page* 1)

Hotel, Kansas City. The Governors of Kansas and Missouri will be invited to attend and speak on the importance of the industry in the society of today. Eric Johnston and other industry leaders will also be invited.

The association has the largest paid-up membership in its history, and many additional exhibitors not so definitely committed have shown keen interest of late in industry organization activities.

Para. Branch Meets

(*Continued from page* 1)

26-28; Detroit, July 29-30; Cincinnati, July 31-Aug. 1; Indianapolis, Aug. 2-4; Chicago, Aug. 5-7; Milwaukee, Aug. 8-9.

Also Minneapolis, Aug. 11-13; Des Moines, Aug. 14; St. Louis, Aug. 15-16; Kansas City, Aug. 18-19; Omaha, Aug. 20; Denver, Aug. 21-22; Salt Lake, Aug. 23-25; Seattle, Aug. 26-27; Portland, Aug. 28; San Francisco, Aug. 29-30; Los Angeles, Sept. 2-3-4.

SHORTER!
SNAPPIER!
MORE MODERN!
Switch to Filmack's
PREVUE TRAILER SERVICE
Filmack $4.50 a week
1327 S. WABASH AVE. CHICAGO 5, ILL.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
May 17	BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY Ron Randell D—70 mins.	(May Releases) HIGH BARBAREE Van Johnson June Allyson D—91 min. (Rev. 3/13/47)	SARGE GOES TO COLLEGE Alan Hale, Jr. D—63 min. (618) (Rev. 5/12/47)	BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—60 min. (Rev. 2/18/47)	TOO MANY WINNERS Hugh Beaumont D—61 min. (Rev. 6/4/47) (Reissue) THE CORSICAN BROTHERS Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. (Reissue) INTERNATIONAL LADY George Brent	WINTER WONDERLAND Lynne Roberts Charles Drake D—71 min. (614) (Rev. 5/26/47)	(Block 5) HONEYMOON Shirley Temple Franchot Tone C—74 mins. (721) (Rev. 4/16/47) TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS Johnny Weismuller O—72 mins. (723) (Rev. 3/20/47) BORN TO KILL Lawrence Tierney D—92 mins. (722) (Rev. 4/21/47) A LIKELY STORY Barbara Hale Bill Williams C—88 mins. (724) (Rev. 4/21/47) BANJO Sharyn Moffett Una O'Connor D—67 mins. (725) (Rev. 4/21/47)	(May Releases) THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR Rex Harrison Gene Tierney D—104 min. (7157) (Rev. 5/16/47) HOMESTRETCH Cornel Wilde Maureen O'Hara D—96 min. (713) (Rev. 4/18/47) JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG Richard Travis Micheline Cheirel D—64 min. (716) (Rev. 4/10/47)	(Hunt Stromberg) DISHONORED LADY Hedy Lamarr D—85 min. (Rev. 4/23/47)	(May Releases) TIME OUT OF MIND Phyllis Calvert Robert Hutton Ella Raines D—88 mins. (Rev. 3/7/47) (Reissue) MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION Irene Dunne Robert Taylor D—101 min. (2795) (Reissue) 100 MEN AND A GIRL Deanna Durbin Leopold Stokowski D—84 min. (2796)	
May 24	LAW OF THE CANYON Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O	UNDERCOVER MAISIE Ann Sothern Barry Nelson C—90 min. (Rev. 3/4/47)	THE LAW COMES TO GUNSIGHT Johnny Mack Brown O—(672)						(Hopalong Cassidy) DANGEROUS VENTURE William Boyd O—59 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)		THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS Humphrey Bogart Barbara Stanwyck D—100 min. (621) (Rev 4/1/47)
May 31	THE MILLERSON CASE Warner Baxter PRAIRIE RAIDERS Charles Starrett	(Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)	SONG OF THE WASTELAND Jimmy Wakely O	CALCUTTA Alan Ladd Wm. Bendix D—83 min. (Rev. 4/16/47)	KILLER AT LARGE Robert Lowery O—63 min.				(Sam Coslow) COPACABANA Groucho Marx Carmen Miranda M—92 mins. (Rev. 5/22/47)		
June 1	THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. George Brent Joan Blondell D—87 min.	THE YEARLING Gregory Peck Jane Wyman D—134 min. (717) (Rev. 11/27/46)			STEPCHILD Brenda Joyce D—70 min.	THAT'S MY MAN Don Ameche Catherine McLeod D—104 min. (Rev. 4/7/47)		(June Releases) MOSS ROSE Peggy Cummins Victor Mature D—82 min. (717) (Rev. 5/22/47)		(June Releases) ODD MAN OUT James Mason Robert Newton D—113 min. (Rev. 2/26/47)	
June 8		(June Releases) LIVING IN A BIG WAY Gene Kelly Marie McDonald D—103 min. (Rev. 5/29/47)			PHILO VANCE RETURNS William Wright D—64 min. (Rev. 4/30/47)		(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47) THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)	MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET Maureen O'Hara John Payne D—96 min. (718) (Rev. 5/2/47)			CHEYENNE Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman O—100 mins. (622) (Rev. 4/23/47)
June 15	LITTLE MISS BROADWAY Jean Porter M—69 min.	DARK DELUSION James Craig Lucille Bremer D—90 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)	HIGH CONQUEST Anna Lee Warren Douglas D—83 mins. (620) (Rev. 3/13/47)	DANGER STREET Jane Withers D—66 min. (4623) (Rev. 2/27/47)		WEB OF DANGER Adele Mara D SADDLE PALS Gene Autry O	DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47) DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)	(Reissue) WESTERN UNION Robert Young O—93 min. (Rev. 2/3/41)	(Comet) STORK BITES MAN Jackie Cooper C	THE WEB Edward O'Brien Ella Raines William Bendix D—87 min. (615) (Rev. 5/22/47)	
June 22	SPORT OF KINGS Paul Campbell D—68 min. SWING THE WESTERN WAY Jack Leonard O			THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—80 min. (4614) (Rev. 4/28/47)	HEARTACHES Sheila Ryan D PIONEER JUSTICE Al La Rue O	NORTHWEST OUTPOST Nelson Eddy Ilona Massey D—91 min. (615) (Rev. 5/12/47)	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)			THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay O—67 min. (Rev. 6/2/47)	
June 29	STRANGER FROM PONCA CITY Smiley Burnette O		KILROY WAS HERE Jackie Cooper Jackie Coogan D—(621)	THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Color) Betty Hutton John Lund C—96 min. (4615) (Rev. 5/26/47)		RUSTLERS OF DEVIL'S CANYON Alan Lane O—58 min.	(Block 7) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)	(July Releases) BOB, SON OF BATTLE Lon McCallister Peggy Ann Garner Edmund Gwenn D—103 min. (Rev. 6/5/47)			THE UNFAITHFUL Ann Sheridan Lew Ayres D—109 min. (623) (Rev. 5/27/47)
July 6	KEEPER OF THE BEES Michael Duane Gloria Henry D	(July Releases) CYNTHIA Elizabeth Taylor Mary Astor D—98 min. (Rev. 5/20/47)					THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (Rev. 6/3/47)	MEET ME AT DAWN William Eythe Hazel Court D—99 min.		(July Releases) IVY Joan Fontaine Herbert Marshall Patric Knowles D—99 min. (Rev. 6/9/47)	
July 13	GUNFIGHTERS (Color) Randolph Scott O	FIESTA (Color) Esther Williams		DEAR RUTH Joan Caulfield William Holden C—95 min. (4616) (Rev. 5/28/47)		SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min.	UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—	THE CRIMSON KEY Kent Taylor D— 76 min.		GREAT EXPECTATIONS John Mills Valerie Hobson Francis L. Sullivan D—115 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)	
July 20	PACIFIC ADVENTURE Lon Randall Muriel Steinbeck D—80 min.						RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—30 min.				POSSESSED Joan Crawford Van Heflin D—108 min. (Rev. 5/29/47)

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.]

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 115 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1947 TEN CENTS

4 Legislatures Adjourn, No Adverse Bills

Admission Tax Measures Killed in Texas, Fla.

WASHINGTON, June 12.—Legislatures of Nebraska, Texas, Florida and Michigan have adjourned without passing any legislation affecting the industry, reports John Bryson, legislative assistant to Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president. This brings the total of adjourned legislatures to 36.

In Texas and Florida, admission tax bills were killed in committee. The Michigan legislature defeated an enabling act which would have given cities the right to impose admission taxes after local referendums. No legislation affecting the industry was introduced in Nebraska.

Eight more legislatures are still in session. Adjournment in Pennsylvania is expected over the weekend.

A. P. Giannini, Bank Head, Retires at 77

Amadeo Peter Giannini, 77, whose departures from conventional banking operations during the past 40 years made him one of the most colorful figures in the field of finance, yesterday announced his retirement as active head of the Bank of America, which he founded in 1904.

Giannini's financial support has contributed greatly to the progress of the film industry since its infancy. Bank of America branches "cover all of California," Giannini said, and it cur-

(*Continued on page 7*)

13 New E-L Branches In Latin Americas

Hollywood, June 12.—Eagle-Lion will open 13 branches in Central and South America by next February, Sam Seidelman, E-L foreign distribution head, disclosed here following conferences with Arthur Krim, company president. Seidelman will leave here for Mexico City early in July to open the first branch there.

Sears to London On U. A. Mission

Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists vice-president and distribution chief, yesterday was authorized by the company's board of directors to undertake an undisclosed mission to England for the company. He may leave for London some time next week, it was indicated.

The mission is believed to be in connection with the problem presented by what the company regards as inadequate playing time afforded its pictures by the larger British circuits, including Odeon, controlled by J. Arthur Rank interests, but 27 per cent of which is owned by U.A.

Bagnall Optimistic On New UA Product

The production position of United Artists is the best in its history, George Bagnall, vice-president in charge of production, told a UA board of directors' meeting here yesterday.

The board approved a new distribution deal with Sam Bischoff for a picture he plans to produce in France and North Africa, and authorized an

(*Continued on page 8*)

21 Here on Smith Luncheon Group

Twenty-one theatremen here will serve on the committee in charge of the testimonial luncheon for A. W. Smith, Jr., William C. Gehring and Ray Moon at the Hotel Astor on June 20, it was disclosed yesterday. Over 400 in exhibition already have expressed intention to attend the affair,

(*Continued on page 8*)

Balaban Appeals for Quick Aid for UJA

Another in the series of industry home office meetings on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal's 1947 campaign for $170,000,000 was held yesterday in the Paramount home office, with key personnel, including all top ex-

(*Continued on page 8*)

SRO Setup Is Completed

Field branches of Selznick Releasing Organization have been established in all territories, and managers installed in all of them, with the country split into seven districts, and district managers appointed for each.

The complete list of Selznick offices, district and branch managers follows:

Boston District—Thomas F. Duane, district manager; Frank G. Lydon; William P. Rosenow, Buffalo.

Washington District—J. E. Fontaine, district manager; Elmer W. McKinley, Washington; Melvin Koff, Philadelphia.

Cleveland District — Grover C. Schaefer, district manager; Leonard Mishkind, Cleveland; Edward B.

(*Continued on page 8*)

All New York ITOA Officers Reelected

All officers of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York were reelected at the organization's annual meeting held at the Hotel Astor here yesterday. They are: Harry Brandt, president; David Weinstock, first vice-president; Max Cohen, second vice-president; J. Joshua Goldberg, secretary; Leon Rosenblatt, treasurer; John C. Bolte, sergeant-at-arms.

Directors elected include: Weinstock, chairman; Maurice Brown, Rudolph Sanders, Abe Shenk, Irving Steiner, Lou Mazze, Sam Einhorn, Arthur Rapf, Abe Leff, Henry Siegel, Emanuel Hertzig, Ray Rhonheimer, Lou Feld, Gilbert Josephson, Samuel Freedman and Murry LeBoss.

Jersey Allied Sets Convention Program

The program for the June 24-26 Atlantic City convention of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey was completed yesterday. Convention manager is E. Thornton Kelley.

Schedule for the first day includes exhibit reviewing, a directors' meeting, an open meeting, selection of nominating committee for the election of officers and directors, and an evening social.

Events of the second day include Eastern regional directors' meeting, open forum, cabaret social, dancing, while the third day schedule includes

(*Continued on page 8*)

British Films Are Set With U. S. Circuits

3,000 Theatres to Take 12 to 15 Yearly: Davis

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, June 12. — Arrangements by which the five leading American circuits, Loew's, Paramount, RKO, Warners and National Theatres, will show British pictures have been concluded by J. Arthur Rank in the United States, John Davis, Rank's chief aide, disclosed at a press conference here today.

(*Editor's Note*: MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported on May 23 that the national circuits would grant increased playing time to British pictures on a scale commensurate with their current box office values.)

Davis told reporters: "The arrangement gives us our first positive opportunity to show British films in the

(*Continued on page 7*)

15 British Films In NY This Week

As evidence that British pictures are getting increased playing time in this country, no less than 15 importations from England were showing in New York City during the week ended yesterday.

In addition to "Great Expectations," at Radio City Music Hall, new and revival productions on view around the city included: "Henry V," "On Approval," "Notorious Gentleman," "The Raider," "The Seventh Veil," "Stairway to Heaven," "This Happy

(*Continued on page 7*)

Tax Study Group Ask Revisions

WASHINGTON, June 12.—An 11-man general business tax study group, named to advise the House Ways and Means Committee on revising the Internal Revenue Code, today issued a

(*Continued on page 8*)

2 Reviews Today

"Stepchild" and "Gunfighters" are reviewed on page 6.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

EXHIBITORS and night-club operators in Mexico City, to say nothing of the police, are disturbed about threats received by the former two groups, to "destroy by fire all cinemas which within a month persist in exhibiting immoral pictures," and to "burn or dynamite all night clubs which within a month do not change their mode of procedure."

The threats, signed by a "Julio Montes," says that action will be taken by "a secret society which has been organized to defend society," and announced that, "death to vice and dishonesty" is the organization's slogan.

▽

Radio Gag of the Week: **A "Hollywood producer" character walked in on the Joan Davis program the other night to persuade Joan to use her influence in his behalf in a casting deal, and gave himself a terrific buildup as a producer of "highly artistic" pictures. To him, art was most important in the cinemah. Box-office? Hmmppff! Said he: "To me, it makes no difference what a picture does at the box-office—as long as it makes money!"**

▽

Bing Crosby had been lending Joe Frisco one $20 *after another to go to the races, and Joe didn't repay them. Finally, at California's Santa Anita racetrack, Joe bet one of Bing's* $20 *on a long shot, and won a bundle. Joe began treating everybody at the bar, and soon a mob was around him.*

Bing arrived on the scene, and from the outer fringes of the crowd he called, "Hey, Frisco, what about me?"

Joe grandiosely peeled off a single twenty, and passed it toward Crosby. "H-h-here, boy," he ordered, "sing two chruses of 'You Made Me Love You When I Didn't Want to Do it'."

▽

J. Warren Kerrigan, noted star of stage and silent screen, who passed away this week in California, once rejoiced in the title of *The Gibson Man,* because he was at least as handsome as *The Gibson Girl* of Charles Dana Gibson's creating.

▽

The police of Rome got busy after the recent Minerva Film Building fire, which killed about 30, seriously injured scores, and completely destroyed the structure, and hurriedly inspected the 20 other film buildings in the city. Only one of the 20, the 20th Century-Fox building, was not in serious violation of the fire laws.

▽

Thurman Arnold, of whom the motion picture industry has heard on more than one occasion, has rejected Columbia Pictures' offer to rent the famous Hope Diamond from the estate of the late Evalyn Walsh McLean, in the Capital. Arnold says the family objects to farming out the stone. Arnold is executor of the McLean will.

Personal Mention

TOM J. CONNORS returned to New York yesterday from Lake o' the Woods, Minn., ahead of schedule, due to the serious illness of a sister here.

•

NORMA DAVIS, secretary to SOL SCHWARTZ, RKO Theatres general manager, and FRANCES TANNENBAUM, also of RKO Theatres, will leave here today for a vacation trip to the West Coast.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warner sales executive, and ED HINCHY, head of the playdate department, have left here for Midwest meetings, beginning in Chicago.

•

NORMAN ELSON, Trans Lux Theatres vice-president, is scheduled to leave New York Monday for Mexico City and is expected to return on June 25.

•

CARLOS NIEBLA, Loew's International manager in Mexico, and MRS. NIEBLA are due here today by plane from Mexico City.

•

EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, United Artists Eastern and Canadian sales manager, returned here yesterday from Philadelphia.

•

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal-International Eastern advertising-publicity director, has returned here from the Coast.

•

THOMAS J. HARGRAVE, Eastman Kodak president, arrived here yesterday from Europe on the *SS America.*

•

MAX E. YOUNGSTEIN, Eagle-Lion advertising-publicity-exploitation director, is in St. Louis.

HUGH OWEN, Paramount's Eastern and Southern division sales manager, has returned here from Jacksonville, Fla.

•

HAROLD MIRISCH, Allied Artists vice-president, has returned to Hollywood after conferences here with STEVE BROIDY, Monogram-A. A. head, who is due back on the Coast early next week.

•

BOB SAVINI of Astor Pictures flew to Boston yesterday from New York to attend the premiere of Admiral Byrd's feature, "Discovery," at the Center Theatre.

•

CHARLIE DURMEYER, Atlanta Variety Club chief barker and president of Southern Automatic Candy Co., is here from Atlanta.

•

JACK LE VIEN, RKO Pathe news editor, has returned here on the *SS America* after realigning news coverage abroad.

•

HUBERT MCNALLY, RKO Radio manager for Ireland, and his bride arrived here yesterday from Dublin.

•

PHIL KOURY, publicity chief for CECIL B. DE MILLE productions, has arrived here from the Coast.

•

ORTON HICKS, Loew's International 16mm director, has returned to New York from Europe.

•

JIM SCOTT, manager of the Roxy, Atlanta, and MRS. SCOTT are parents of a girl.

•

ARTHUR KELLY has returned to New York from Hollywood.

Coming Events

June 16—First of a series of Paramount branch sales meetings, Dallas.

June 23-25—Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana convention, Lake Wawasee, Ind.

June 24-26—Allied Theatres of New Jersey 28th annual convention, Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City.

June 26—Testimonial dinner to Jack Kirsch given by Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City.

June 30—Film industry testimonial dinner to Jack Flynn, retiring Midwestern sales manager for M-G-M, Continental Hotel, Chicago.

July 6—Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States meeting with Mississippi Theatre Owners, Biloxi, Miss.

July 13-16—Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio annual convention, the Breakers Hotel, Cedar Point, O.

Might Be Permanent

The Samuel Goldwyn office here was plastered with congratulatory messages yesterday, addressed to Lynn Farnol, advertising-publicity head. It was Farnol's 20th anniversary with the Goldwyn company.

Msgr. McClafferty Is Named School Dean

Very Rev. Monsignor John J. McClafferty, former executive secretary of the National Legion of Decency and director of the division of social research of New York Catholic Charities, has been appointed dean of the National Catholic School of Social Service of the Catholic University of America, in Washington, by the Right Rev. Monsignor Patrick J. McCormick, rector of the University, Legion headquarters disclosed here yesterday. The appointment was informally disclosed on May 20.

Rev. Patrick J. Masterson, assistant executive secretary of the Legion, has become acting secretary during Monsignor McClafferty's absence.

20th-Fox Club Outing

Fifth annual boatride and outing of the 20th Century-Fox Family Club will be held next Wednesday at Bear Mountain, with athletic events and a beauty contest included on the program. Lew Lehr, club president, will be master-of-ceremonies. Harry Reinhardt is in charge of arrangements.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
John MILLS • Valerie HOBSON
in J. Arthur Rank's
"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
JOAN BENNETT
ROBERT RYAN • CHARLES BICKFORD
in
'THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH'
RKO RADIO PICTURE

ALLIED ARTISTS PRODUCTIONS, INC.,
presents
Don DE FORE • Ann HARDING • Charlie RUGGLES
Victor MOORE • Gale STORM
in ROY DEL RUTH'S
"IT HAPPENED ON 5TH AVENUE"
Doors Open 9:30 A.M. B'WAY AT 49TH STREET
RIVOLI
Continuous Performances Popular Prices

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
M-G-M's TECHNICOLOR PRIZE PICTURE!
'THE YEARLING'
GREGORY PECK
JANE WYMAN
CLAUDE JARMAN, Jr.
IN PERSON
SMITH & DALE
NANCY DONOVAN
DAN CUMMING
OTHERS

WILLIAM HOLDEN • JOAN CAULFIELD
in "Dear Ruth"
with BILLY DE WOLFE • EDWARD ARNOLD
MONA FREEMAN
A Paramount Picture.
IN PERSON
PERRY COMO
LLOYD SHAFFER and his ORCHESTRA
HELEN CARROLL and the SATISFIERS
LARRY STORCH
THE FOUR EVANS
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

30th WEEK!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE BEST FILM OF THE YEAR!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
ASTOR
B'WAY & 45th ST.

Maureen O'Hara, John Payne, Edmond Gwenn
"Miracle on 34th Street"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Plus on Stage—JERRY LESTER - ART LUND
Extra! JAN AUGUST
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Sarnoff Hits Apathy for Television

CHICAGO, June 12.—Decrying the film industry's "strangely indifferent" attitude toward television, David Sarnoff, president of Radio Corp. of America, tonight implied "failure to face the facts" at this time will have a detrimental effect on the industry's future.

"Time will tell whether a failure to face the facts is the best possible protection of studio investments and the theatre boxoffice," he declared in an address before the Radio Manufacturers Association's convention here.

"In its technical aspect, television as a method of simultaneous distribution of motion pictures to the theatre may revolutionize the trade structure of the motion picture industry.

'New Booking Method'

"Furthermore, it brings into view a new method of booking to theatres the action of live talent, vaudeville, drama, opera, sports and other events, simultaneously distributed to hundreds of thousands of movie theatres."

Sarnoff conceded that some film leaders are "quite alive to the promise of television in the theatre" but added they are too few in number. These same leaders are among those who were first to recognize the possibilities of adding sound to the silent picture, he said.

"There are many more, however, who are strangely indifferent to the new art form—or perhaps they are waiting until television delivers itself on a silver platter to the motion picture industry. They have the know-how, the experience and the talent for picture making, and their pride is understandable in view of the huge boxoffice they experience. But they tend to shut their eyes, as once they shut their ears, to another momentous electronic development — sound on film."

Video 'Art of Own'

Sarnoff said film executives err in comparing entertainment values of the motion picture with present television programs. "Television promises to develop an art form of its own," he maintained, "and the immediate impact of television theatre attendance will come from the timeliness and dramatic interest of the event that television will bring to the home."

He dismissed as non-existent any possibility of television constituting competition for the theatreman. "It would be folly to suppose that television will ever supplant the theatre any more than radio has supplanted the concert hall or the opera house," he said. "Broadcasting greatly multiplied the audiences for both. Television can do as much for the movie theatre."

Approximately 50,000 television receivers are in service, Sarnoff estimated. He predicted nation-wide television network operations will be in operation before 1950.

$20,000 RMA Appropriation For National Radio Week

CHICAGO, June 12.—The board of directors of the Radio Manufacturers Association today approved an appropriation of $20,000 for the promotion of National Radio Week, Oct. 26-Nov. 1, as the RMA convention went into its second day today at the Stevens Hotel.

At yesterday's session, R. C. Cosgrove, president of RMA and vice-president and general manager of Crosley Corp., said the output of radio sets in 1947 will reach 15,000,000, about equal to last year's production. This is about 15 per cent under production capacity, he added.

Nemec Named SMPE Executive Secretary

Boyce Nemec, engineering secretary of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers for the past 18 months, has been appointed executive secretary to succeed Harry Smith Jr., who resigned effective July 1 to go into business, it is announced by Loren L. Ryder, president of the Society. Nemec has been active in the technical end of motion pictures for over a decade. He was instrumental in forming the War Committee on Photography, designed to bring about better specifications and standardization. As a member of the general committee for the 62nd semi-annual convention of the SMPE, to be held Oct. 20-24 at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York. Nemec is now preparing for the theatre engineering conference and exhibit which will be features of the meeting.

Czech Film Heads En-route to the US

Four heads of the Czech State film monopoly's technical section are due here next week to observe and study film laboratory operations and techniques in the U. S., their mission being linked with efforts of the Czech film industry to rehabilitate, modernize and expand present productional facilities in that country. In addition to an inspection tour of New York theatres and film laboratories in the East, it is expected that they will make a trip to Hollywood.

The delegation, which will arrive on the *S.S. Drottningholm*, includes: Frantisek Pilat, head of the technical administration of theatres; Vilem Taraba, technical manager of state studios; Frantisek Rubas, manager of laboratories, and Dr. Jaroslav Boucek, professor of the film faculty.

CBS, NBC Urge Aid For Overseas Plan

WASHINGTON, June 12.—Representatives of CBS and NBC today urged the Senate Appropriations Committee to vote funds for the State Department's overseas information program, claiming that private industry could not afford to carry on an adequate program.

William F. Brooks, NBC vice-president in charge of the international division, said that the committee should provide funds for another fiscal year and that Congress should act to provide long-term plans at an early date. Edmund A. Chester, director of short wave broadcasting for CBS, declared that short wave broadcasting is the "only medium that delivers the message directly to the peoples of the world."

'Wheels of Justice Grind Slowly But—'

The New York Federal Court handed down its decision in the Government anti-trust suit against the industry one year ago today.

Bets are being made now on whether a final decision will have been handed down by one year from today in the U. S. Supreme Court, which is expected to hear the case next winter or spring.

Spotlight Drive-Ins At Bldg. Code Parley

ALBANY, N. Y., June 12.—Proper building code provisions should be formulated to cover drive-in booth construction, sanitary facilities, electrical installations, width of driveways, exit passageways, fence construction and other drive-in features, in the opinion of Philip F. Harling, assistant to president Si Fabian of Fabian Theatres.

Harling called for these specific references to drive-ins in the revisions proposed for the New York State standard building code at a hearing on the code held here today. He emphasized that when such provisions for drive-ins are made, "the extremely safe conditions under which drive-ins now operate" should be borne in mind.

Harling, reiterating his stand taken at the initial public hearing in New York, asked that limitations on drive-in seating capacity be eliminated, since "no one can determine how many patrons occupy each car." The "very spaciousness of drive-ins," he argued, "make them one of the safest places of public assembly." Leon Einhorn, designer of the Fabian-Hellman drive-ins in Upstate New York, backed up Harling's arguments.

Others who attended the hearing here were: Charles A. Smakowitz, assistant zone manager of Warner Theatres; Joseph Saperstein, Fabian assistant division manager, Schine maintenance department; Harry Fagan, Smalley Theatres, and Neil Hellman of Fabian-Hellman drive-ins.

Minneapolis Paper Raises Rates on Ads

MINNEAPOLIS, June 12.—Amusement and all display advertising rates will be raised by the *Star-Journal*, daily, July 1.

Under the new rates, Loop first-run theatres for the morning and evening combination will be 80 cents per agate line daily, and 90 cents on Sunday.

Neighborhood house rates are lower, scaling at 53 cents a line daily, and 66 cents per agate line for Sunday.

Cameo, PRC Set Deal

HOLLYWOOD, June 12.—Producers Releasing Corp. will release the first production of the newly-formed Cameo Pictures under a deal finalized by PRC president Harry H. Thomas.

Court Cuts Hughes' Anti-Trust Charges

Federal Judge John C. Knox ruled yesterday that certain "irrelevant" allegations must be stricken out of Howard Hughes' anti-trust complaint against the Motion Picture Association, and that Hughes must file an amended complaint. Hughes' suit seeks $7,500,000 damages, allegedly sustained as a result of the MPA's withdrawal of the Production Code Administration seal from "The Outlaw."

Paragraphs of the complaint ordered stricken out are nine and 12 which refer to the old arbitration case, and wherein the assertion is made that others, like Hughes, have grounds for complaint against the MPA.

Ky. Owners in Fight Against Wage Boosts

LOUISVILLE, June 12.—Legislation to prevent theatre personnel from being placed within the scope of wage-increase regulations of the Kentucky Department of Industrial Relations will be prepared by the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners for introduction in the 1948 legislature.

Association attorneys have been in communication with Industrial Commissioner Willis and the Governor in efforts to show them that the exhibitors should not be compelled to increase wages. Legislation which will be drafted will be presented to a special KATO panel in the fall.

D. C. Lawyer Studies Detroit Exhibition

WASHINGTON, June 12.—William L. McGovern, Washington attorney, disclosed on his return here today from Detroit that he had been retained by a private concern to study the details of the Detroit exhibition situation with a view to ascertaining whether violations of the anti-trust laws exist.

He declined to identify his client.

McGovern said he had studied operations and components of both the Co-Operative Theatres of Michigan and United Detroit Theatres. "There is a serious question of possible violations resulting from controls exercised by the two companies," he said.

Schine Ad Account to Greenthal Agency

The Schine Hotels advertising account has been assigned to the Monroe Greenthal Agency, New York, which handles the Universal-International, J. Arthur Rank Organization and other accounts. A campaign on the hotel chain, headed by J. Myer Schine of the Schine Circuit, Gloversville, N. Y., is scheduled to start on Sunday. The hotels are located in Florida, New York, Massachusetts, Maine and Atlantic City.

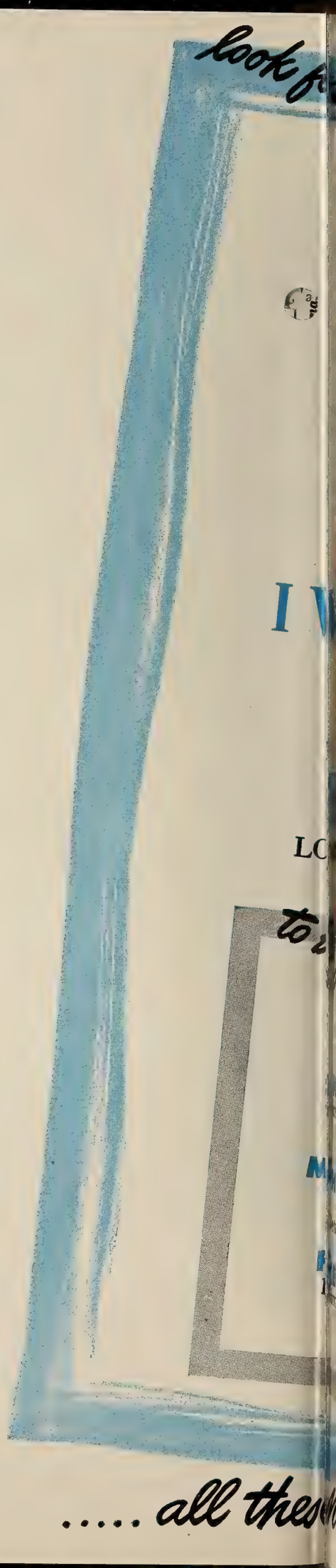
Mulligan to RKO Radio

William Mulligan, former war correspondent, has been assigned by Don Prince, RKO Radio foreign publicity director, to prepare feature material on star personalities working for the company and its associate producers, Prince has announced here following his return from the Coast. Adele Palmer remains as Coast publicity representative.

The
whole
industry
is
calling
it

THE MIRACLE FROM 56th STREET

From 20th's Home Office on 56th St.
in New York City and the Studio
in California, the news has
raced throughout all fields of
the industry—production, distribution
and exhibition—that *20th has the answer!*



yourself...

NOW BREAKING RECORDS AT THE ROXY, NEW YORK

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET

MAUREEN O'HARA · JOHN PAYNE

NEXT ATTRACTION AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR

GENE TIERNEY · REX HARRISON · GEORGE SANDERS

WORLD PREMIERE ORIENTAL, CHICAGO, JULY 3rd

NDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW

In TECHNICOLOR · MARK STEVENS · JUNE HAVER

O STATE DAY-AND-DATE WORLD PREMIERE JULY 10

B, SON OF BATTLE *In TECHNICOLOR*

cCALLISTER · PEGGY ANN GARNER · EDMUND GWENN

followed by...

ISS OF DEATH
or Mature · Brian Donlevy
Coleen Gray

IER WORE TIGHTS
In TECHNICOLOR
tty Grable · Dan Dailey

ES OF HARROW
rison · Maureen O'Hara

NIGHTMARE ALLEY
Tyrone Power · Coleen Gray
Joan Blondell · Helen Walker

FOREVER AMBER
In TECHNICOLOR
Linda Darnell · Cornel Wilde
Richard Greene · George Sanders

DAISY KENYON
Joan Crawford · Dana Andrews · Henry Fonda

GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT
Gregory Peck · Dorothy McGuire
John Garfield · Celeste Holm

Miracle hits are from 20th Century-Fox

Big Splurge in Production as 15 Films Start

HOLLYWOOD, June 12.—The production graph took a long anticipated swing upward from 40 to 51 during a week in which 15 pictures were started on six of the major lots, and four were sent to cutting rooms. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "When a Girl's Beautiful", with Adele Jergens, Stephen Dunne, Marc Platt and Patricia White; "Last Days of Boot Hill", with Charles Starrett and Smiley Burnett as co-stars; "The Mating of Minnie McGonigle", with Evelyn Keyes.

Shooting: "The Last Round-Up", "The Sea Hound", "The Double Take", "It Had To Be You", "The Prince of Thieves", "The Man From Colorado".

Eagle-Lion

Finished: "A Texas Story".

Shooting: "Adventures of Casanova".

Enterprise

Shooting: "They Passed This Way".

M-G-M

Started: "Killer McCoy", with Mickey Rooney, Elizabeth Taylor, Brian Donlevy, James Dunn; "On an Island with You", with Esther Williams, Peter Lawford and Ricardo Montalban.

Finished: "Good News."

Shooting: "If Winter Comes", "The Kissing Bandit", "Cass Timberlane", "Alias a Gentleman", "The Pirate".

Paramount

Started: "Big Town Scandal", co-starring Philip Reed and Hillary Brooke (Pine-Thomas).

Shooting: "Whispering Smith", "Dream Girl".

RKO Radio

Shooting: "I Remember Mama", "Return of the Bad Men", "Mourning Becomes Electra", "Memory of Love", "The Bishop's Wife".

Republic

Finished: "Old Spanish Trails".

Shooting: "The Red Pony", (Feldman); "Driftwood".

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie".

Screen Guild

Finished: "The Burning Cross".

20th Century-Fox

Started: "Green Grass of Wyoming", with Peggy Cummins, Charles Coburn, Burl Ives, Lloyd Nolan, Geraldine Wall; "Roses Are Red" (Wurtzel), with Don Castle, Peggy Knudsen, Patricia Knight.

Shooting: "Gentleman's Agreement", "Nightmare Alley", "Off to Buffalo", "Foxes of Harrow".

United Artists

Started: "Without Honor" (Hopalong Cassidy Productions).

Shooting: "Intrigue" (Bischoff), "The Time of Your Life" (Cagney), "Sleep My Love".

Universal-International

Started: "Tap Roots" (Wanger-Marshall), in Technicolor, with Van Heflin, Susan Hayward, Boris Karloff, Julie London, Ward Bond; "Imagination" (Kanin Productions), with Ronald Colman, Signe Hasso, Edmond O'Brien; "Adventures of Black Bart", with Yvonne de Carlo, Dan Duryea, Jeffrey Lynn.

Shooting: "Ride the Pink Horse", "Wistful Widow of Wagon Gap", "The Exile".

Warners

Started: "Mary Hagen", with Shirley Temple, Ronald Reagan, Lois Maxwell; "Head Over Heels", with Robert Hutton, Joyce Reynolds, Cecil Kellaway, Ernest Truex; "Romance in High C" (Curtiz), with Jack Carson, Doris Day, Janis Page, Don DeFore, Oscar Levant.

Shooting: "Ever the Beginning", "Treasure of Sierra Madre", "Silver River".

Reviews

"Stepchild"

(Producers Releasing Corp.)

THE unhappiness and discontent that a broken-up family can bring to the children of a divorced couple provides the central theme of this Leonard S. Picker production. For marquee purposes it offers the names of Brenda Joyce and Donald Woods.

From the standpoint of production values, "Stepchild" approximates the quality of a PRC entry of last year, "Her Sister's Secret." However, in terms of writing, direction and performances, this one is dwarfed considerably by the previous film, with the onus lying principally in the barren dialogue provided by Karen DeWolf's screenplay, plus uninspired direction by James Flood.

Woods and Miss Joyce play the couple whose divorce stems from his resentment over her having a business position of greater prestige than his. The court gives him custody of their two young boys, played with relative appeal by Tommy Ivo and Gregory Marshall. Woods then marries his secretary, a ruthless, scheming damsel (Terry Austin) whose kindly treatment of the youngsters before her marriage takes an amazing turn after the wedding. Unknown to Woods she tongue-lashes and cuffs the lads until they feel compelled to run away from home. When they are recovered Woods turns against the stepmother, and reconciliation ensues between him and the first wife, Miss Joyce. Others in the cast include James Millican, Griff Barnett, Selmer Jackson, Ruth Robinson and "Daisy," a dog. Jerry Briskin was associate producer; Jules Levine authored the original story.

Running time, 70 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, June 7.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"Gunfighters"

(Columbia)

DISILLUSIONMENT in the form of their own hasty demise comes to many a tough upstart nursing the mistaken notion "Brazos Kane" can be beaten to the draw. Thus establishing at the outset the reputation of the hero, and an ideal one he is in the person of Randolph Scott, "Gunfighters" abounds in colorful adventure as it depicts the West in the gun-blasting days of the pioneers. It is a good show, made more than usually attractive pictorially by Cinecolor, rating head and shoulders above the conventional.

Scott, as Alan LeMay's screenplay goes, shelves his weapons in favor of more peaceful pursuits, and sets off to join an old friend in the ranching business. The latter's corpse leads him into trouble aplenty, plus some romantic encounters with Barbara Britton and Dorothy Hart, both daughters of the big-time prairie operator responsible for his friend's murder.

Bruce Cabot, Charley Grapewin, Steven Geray, Forrest Tucker, Charles Kemper and Grant Withers round out a competent cast in Harry Joe Brown's production, which George Waggner directed. The story was taken from a Zane Grey novel, "Twin Sombreros."

Running time, 87 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

GENE ARNEEL

Film on Army Women

WASHINGTON, June 12.—Knickerbocker Productions, Inc., of New York, has received a contract from the War Department for production of an Army Air Force film saluting the women of the AAF. The film, a black-and-white two-reeler, will deal with the war activity of the WASPs, air WACs, and flight nurses. The Army plans to use the film primarily for training and orientation use, but may try to obtain theatre showing as well.

Short Subjects

"Your Doctors—1947"

(March of Time—20th-Fox)

March of Time does a splendid job of examining the medical field as it is today, depicting how its frontiers are moving steadily forward. Crisp and entertaining, the subject pokes into schools, laboratories and operating rooms and gives some realistic glimpses.

Among some of its highlights is a demonstration of an artificial kidney, an "RH" transfusion performed on a baby, and a delicate brain operation. The subject also shows several actual sessions with a psychoanalyst and helps clarify many misconceptions about them. Running time, 19 minutes.

"I Am an Alcoholic"

(This Is America—RKO)

The story of a problem drinker is told in the latest of the This Is America series. It constitutes a timely and interesting subject.

The organization and humanitarian work of Alcoholics Anonymous, founded to rehabilitate alcoholics, is described at length. The film is handled skillfully and should hold interest. Running time, 17 minutes.

Hollywood

Hollywood, June 12

METRO-Goldwyn-Mayer has purchased "The Murder Mystery", by Charles Jackson, author of "The Lost Weekend", and to be published by Rinehart. Irving Lazar, who conducted negotiations for the purchase, joins M-G-M as associate produ[illegible] on the film. . . . Enterprise Stud[illegible] has pared its production schedule for 1946-47 from six to five films. The quintet will be: "Ramrod", now in general release; "The Other Love", also currently showing; "Body and Soul", "Arch of Triumph" and "They Passed This Way".

•

The entire filming of John Galsworthy's "Escape" will be done in England, locale of the play, 20th Century-Fox announces. Production will start late this summer, with Rex Harrison starred. William Perlberg will produce and Joseph Mankiewicz will direct. . . . Filming has started on the first of the new series of six Hopalong Cassidys, "Without Honor". William Boyd, besides playing the title role, is also executive producer. "Coward's Castle" will be the second. . . . Casting difficulties forced the setting back of the starting date of RKO Radio's "Roughshod" from June 16 to July 1. Only role cast thus far is that of Claude Jarman, Jr.

•

"Joan of Lorraine", starring Ingrid Bergman, will go before the cameras on July 14. Victor Fleming will direct. It is for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer release. . . . Two recently published first novels, with American backgrounds, "Web of Days" and "Jed Blaine's Woman", have been assigned to P. J. Wolfson for production at Paramount. "Web of Days" will star Paulette Goddard. . . . RKO Radio has signed Sidney Lanfield to direct "Stations West", a Luke Short Western with Dick Powell as the star. The producer is Robert Sparks and filming is set for July.

•

Republic announced two story purchases, "Come and Get Me" and "The Last of the Westerners". The former has been assigned to associate producer Stephen Auer. "Last of the Westerners" will be the second in the series starring Allan Lane. . . . William Castle was signed to a new directorial contract at Columbia three days after it was announced that the director was leaving the studio by mutual agreement. . . . As a future vehicle for Roland Winters, who in August takes over the title role in Monogram's Charlie Chan series, producer James S. Burkett announces the purchase of "Murder By Alphabet".

•

Paul Jones, writer-producer, has been signed to a producer contract by M-G-M. Jones' last production chore was Paramount's "Dear Ruth", for Producer Norman Krasna. . . . John Sturges has been loaned by Columbia to Irving Cummings to direct "The Sign of the Ram", starring Susan Peters, which Cummings will produce for Columbia. Another new directorial assignment at Columbia is Ray Nazarro, for "The Last Days of Boot Hill", with Colbert Clark producing.

W. J. McG.

Say Rank Offered $160,000 for Bing

London, June 12.—It is reported here that J. Arthur Rank offered Bing Crosby $160,000 to come here to star in the film, "Eastward Passage." The report could not be confirmed here.

Eire's Problems of Labor Are Solved

By T. J. M. SHEEHY

DUBLIN, June 9 (By Airmail).—In Eire, as in most countries, post-war adjustments of living conditions and wages has led to a number of industrial disputes, but the Irish film trade has given the country a lead in solution of employer-employe problems.

In a series of negotiations, conducted under the auspices of the National Labor Court, exhibitors and their employes and distributors and their staffs have reached agreements amicably. As a result, there have been substantial improvements in wages and working conditions and the Irish Transport and General Workers Union has established 100 per cent membership in Dublin, the main center of all film activity. Ten distributors have agreed that all persons employed in the clerical departments, except those employed in a confidential capacity, shall be members of the union. A similar agreement has been signed on behalf of film repairers and dispatch workers.

The union has also come to an amicable agreement with the Theatre and Cinema Association, representing Dublin exhibitors. Dublin theatre employes of all grades are guaranteed substantial increases—in some cases up to 70 per cent—on pre-war scales.

Particular credit in the negotiations is due to exhibitors, since they agreed to new rates and better working conditions at a time when general costs had mounted and while admission prices are still pegged by government order at 1936 rates.

Judges Named in E-L 'Repeat' Contest

Judges in Eagle-Lion's contest for campaigns on "Repeat Performance" have been set by Max E. Youngstein, E-L director of advertising-publicity.

They include: Sherwin Kane, MOTION PICTURE DAILY; Walter Brooks, *Motion Picture Herald;* Chester Bahn, *Film Daily*; Jay Emanuel, *The Exhibitor;* Chick Lewis, *Showmen's Trade Review;* T. E. Mortensen, *Greater Amusements;* Morton Sunshine, *Independent Film Journal;* Mo Wax, *Film Bulletin;* Chester Friedman, *Boxoffice,* Herb Golden, *Variety.*

The contest, which runs until Nov. 15, is open to all theatres. Sixteen cash prizes, ranging from $1,000 to $50, will be awarded to the showmen turning in the best "Repeat Performance" campaigns.

15 British Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

Breed," "Thirty-Nine Steps," "Thursday's Child," "The Scarlet Pimpernel," "Beloved Vagabond," "Brief Encounter," "Captive Heart" and "The Return of the Scarlet Pimpernel."

British Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

important United States theatres. In the last six months our films have made more progress in America than ever before.

"Our 1947 revenue," Davis continued, "will be far in advance of the $8,000,000 we estimated we should receive for 1946."

Davis asserted that approximately 3,000 theatres are involved in the playing arrangements for British pictures. The theatres will play 12 to 15 British films this year, he said.

Contracts Yet Unsigned

He admitted that no definite contracts have been signed but said he is satisfied the American executives will keep their word.

He said the arrangements with Warners do not imply any link between Rank interests here and the Warner-controlled Associated British Pictures Circuit.

Davis refused to divulge the amount of dollars being received here from current Rank picture exhibition in the States but claimed that the remittances are increasing monthly. He said it is anticipated that such Rank pictures as "Great Expectations," "Odd Man Out" and "Stairway to Heaven" will gross in excess of $8,000,000 in American circuits alone this year.

He conceded that the present major obstacle is that British stars and directors are unknown in America but that measures to correct that are being taken.

Proposed Time Cut Aided

Davis said the proposed cut in playing time for American films here obviously contributed to a receptive reaction in America, but he described Rank's talks there as having been on the friendliest basis. Therefore, he said, if the Americans play ball, it is hoped that the threatened cut in playing time here may be averted.

He disclosed that Rank's pictures have grossed $1,250,000 in South America in eight months, "all of which will gradually reach Britain."

Over the rest of the world the revenue of British pictures is two or three times more this year than it was last year, Davis said.

Rank's Canadian production plans include only shorts and children's films, he reported. Plans for Australian studios have been deferred by Rank and he now is planning to make two outdoors pictures there annually. Rank and Davis plan a visit to Australia next spring and will go from there to New Zealand. However, Rank has no plans at present for activities in the latter country.

Other Deals on Continent

He said that the problems of British films on the Continent have been complicated by the release in Europe of seven-year's supply of American films but, nevertheless, satisfactory deals have been concluded, particularly in Holland and the Scandinavian countries, whereby Britain more than holds her own.

British pictures are playing well in South Africa, he reported, and two British outdoor subjects are in preparation there with the studio work to be done here.

Davis plans a visit to Egypt in September for the opening of the million-dollar Cairo Odeon Theatre. Plans for a similar theatre in Alexandria are far advanced, he said.

Concerning Hollywood's attraction for British stars, Davis said America is particularly attractive to actors; there is an abundance of food there "but many find living costs not what they expected so they return here wiser if unhappier peeople."

"We are trying to make films for the international market," he said, "but we still call them 'British,' believing this to be a hallmark of merit recognized the world over."

Confirming an earlier MOTION PICTURE DAILY story, Davis said that Rank had concluded "a satisfactory arrangement" for an interchange of American and British television patents with the E. N. Rauland Corp. of Chicago. He said it is "more than likely" that Rank will equip three experimental television theatres in Britain in 1947. Davis claimed that Britain is as far advanced in television as America.

He reiterated that Rank would not acquire theatres in America but that Universal-International will where circumstances dictate.

Rank Elated

London, June 12. — "Progress made with the five leading American circuits is beyond all my hopes," J. Arthur Rank said in a cable read to a press conference here today by John Davis, assistant to Rank.

Hungary to Abandon Advance Censorship

By ALEXANDER FODOR

BUDAPEST, June 7 (By Airmail).—Instructions covering the state film decree, purpose of which is to restore film production here, are due to be made public shortly. As the most important feature, the state will do away with the much-attacked "preliminary censorship" law by which screenplays must be submitted to censors before going into production.

Each Hungarian film to be produced will be subsidized by the government by a grant of 200,000 Forint, a remarkable aid when total production costs seldom exceed 500,000 Forint (about $40,000). In addition, considerable tax reductions will be granted; the 12 per cent "public institutions endowment fee" will be waived and the entertainment tax will be reduced by 50 per cent. Hungary expects to produce about 10 features during 1947-48.

Giannini

(*Continued from page* 1)

rently finances substantial independent production.

Giannini's retirement is real this time, he said, when reminded yesterday that he had "retired" nearly 20 times in his career, but always returned to his job within a few days.

Giannini will leave here today for South America.

M-G-M
TRADE SHOW
New York - New Jersey Territory Only
"FIESTA"
NEW DATE
JUNE 16
MONDAY, 10:30 a. m.
★
M-G-M SCREEN ROOM
630 Ninth Avenue - New York City

Deal in Uruguay by RKO, Glucksmann

By PAUL BODO

MONTEVIDEO, June 9 (By Airmail). —One of the most important deals in the Uruguayan industry has been closed by Bernardo Glucksmann, who has purchased the whole of RKO Radio production for the next four years for the theatre circuits under his management. The deal put an end to rumors, which were never denied, about RKO purchasing half of Glucksmann's theatre interests.

Meanwhile, as a first step as producers, Grandes Estudios Filmadores Rioplantenses has announced the first issue of the newsreel, Uruguay al Dia, to be issued regularly. Joaquim Martinez Arboleya is in charge of the project, which is financed by Uruguayan capital.

Moglia Films, a new distributing company, has been established to handle French and British product, mostly reissues.

European product is again appearing on Montevideo screens, dividing theatre screens and box-office receipts with American product. German pictures, banned during the war, are again in distribution here.

Smith Luncheon

(*Continued from page* 1)

but ticket sales have not yet begun at the home offices, indicating a "capacity house," it was said. Leon Rosenblatt is treasurer.

The committee members, alphabetically, are: Adam Adams, A. J. Balaban, Leo Brecher, Max A. Cohen, Frank Damas, Irving Dollinger, Oscar Doob, Gus Eyssell, Si Fabian, Julius Joelson, Malcolm Kingsberg, Harry Lowenstein, Arthur Mayer, Walter Reade, Jr., Sam Rosen, Ed Rugoff, Fred Schwartz, Joseph Seider, Sol Strausberg, Robert Weitman and William White.

NJ Allied Program

(*Continued from page* 1)

a golf tournament, open forum, a closed session, a National Screen Service reception, and a testimonial banquet to Allied national president Jack Kirsch at the Hotel Chelsea. Hundreds from various parts of the country will attend the banquet.

Rosser Rejoins NTSC

R. P. Rosser, Jr., discharged from the Army where he was a lieutenant colonel, has rejoined National Theatre Supply Co. as assistant to Arthur F. Baldwin, export manager. Rosser was formerly branch manager in Albany.

Wood Sets Next Film

HOLLYWOOD, June 12.—Following his next production, "Purgatory Street," Sam Wood will have one more film to do under his Inter-Wood banner for Universal-International release.

"Fifth Ave." Promotion

Allied Artists Corp. has engaged Bill Slater's United Publicity Bureau to handle special Fifth Ave. promotion for "It Happened on Fifth Avenue."

Para. Partners End Promotional Talks

Leonard Goldenson, vice-president of Paramount in charge of theatre operations, has returned to New York from Chicago, where he participated in a meeting of advertising executives of a number of the company's theatre partners and affiliates, among them Balaban and Katz, Great States, M. and P. Theatres, United Detroit Theatres, Tri-States Theatres, Wilby and Kincey, Minnesota Amusement Co. and Famous Players Canadian. The meeting, opened on Tuesday, discussed common advertising problems.

Goldenson was accompanied by Edward L. Hyman, vice-president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp. Also back from the sessions is Curtis Mitchell, Paramount's advertising-publicity director.

Paramount International Executives to the Coast

A group of Paramount International executives, headed by George Weltner, PI president, will entrain today from New York for Hollywood, to meet with Henry Ginsberg, vice-president in charge of production, and other studio officials. The discussions, which take place semi-annually, will deal with international aspects of Paramount productions.

Accompanying Weltner will be J. E. Perkins, managing director for the British Isles; F. E. Hutchinson, managing director of sales for Paramount Film Service, Ltd., and John B. Nathan, division manager for Continental Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East. Following tomorrow will be Tony C. Reddin, director of theatres, advertising and publicity for Paramount Film Service.

Tax Study Group

(*Continued from page* 1)

call for a "thorough revision of Federal tax laws." J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal Pictures board chairman, is a member of the group, which held its first organizational meeting here today.

The committee, headed by former Treasury Undersecretary Roswell Magill, appointed various special subcommittees to consider special tax problems, including double taxation of dividends, community property tax, excise tax revision, stock option taxes, and other corporate tax problems. The subcommittee will circulate their findings to all members, and the full committee will meet here again on July 11 to make more complete recommendations.

Cowdin, who left for New York following the meeting, denied that he was on the group as a special representative of the industry, and claimed he represented "the people at large."

Any substantial cut in admission taxes is likely to face tough going in the advisory group, as several members are known to favor high excise taxes, and some go so far as to favor a general sales tax. However, it is almost certain to recommend steps to end double taxation.

To Teach Films on Coast

Prof. Robert Gessner, chairman of the department of motion pictures in the Washington Square College of New York University, has arrived in Los Angeles, where he will be a teacher on films at the University of Southern California this summer.

Italy Liquidating Its Film Institute

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

ROME, June 9 (By Airmail).—The government-owned Instituto Nazionale Luce will be liquidated within the next six months and reorganized in the interest of public service, according to a Government bill.

The Instituto was organized for the production of newsreels and documentaries and owns much technical equipment. It owns the Ente Nazionale Industrie Cinematografiche, which is an important distributing company and which owns and controls a circuit of 140 theatres. ENIC, in turn, owns 50 per cent of the stock of Societa Anonima Cinecitta, which owns 16 sound stages and equipment. Cinecitta and ENIC each own 50 per cent of the Cines production company, which already is in liquidation.

The building belonging to the Instituto will be sold. All employees will be dismissed. The stocks of the ENIC belonging to the Instituto, the equipment, machinery and the residual estate will be transferred to the government.

SRO Setup

(*Continued from page* 1)

Salsberg, Cincinnati; Eugene P. Alexander, Detroit.

Chicago District—Sam Horowitz, district manager; Walter M. Dorff,; Charles M. Weiner, Minneapolis; Elmer J. Tilton, Des Moines; R. Thompson, Kansas City; Ellis N. Shafton, St. Louis.

Atlanta District—Henry G. Krum, district manager; Guy B. Davis, Atlanta.

Dallas District—A. J. Delcambre, district manager; Claude W. Atkinson, Dallas.

Los Angeles District—John T. Howard, district manager; Paul J. Walsh, Los Angeles, Harry Hunsaker, San Francisco, Cornell J. Duer, Denver; Howard B. Cahoon, Salt Lake City; James L. Walsh, Seattle.

Balaban Appeals for

(*Continued from page* 1)

ecutives, in attendance. Leonard Goldenson, vice-president of Paramount, presided.

Appeals for aid for Jewish victims of Nazism were voiced by Henry Montor, UJA executive vice-president, and Barney Balaban, national chairman of its motion picture division, who were the principal speakers. Importance of immediate help was stressed by Balaban.

At the meeting Agnes Mengel Grew, president of the Paramount Pictures Club, presented to Balaban a check for $829 as a contribution to the campaign.

'Torment' Coast Premiere

Edward L. Kingsley, vice-president of Oxford Films, Inc., is in Hollywood, preparing for the Coast premiere of "Torment," Swedish film, which is currently in its eighth week at the Avenue Playhouse here.

Raftery Says FTC Attempts Regulation

Commenting yesterday on the Federal Trade Commission's action summoning United Artists Corp., Mary Pickford, Charles Chaplin, David O. Selznick and Edward C. Raftery before it on charges of misleading advertising of "Col. Blimp," Raftery termed the action as "the first attempt on the part of a governmental body to tell a motion picture producer how he must cut a picture for public consumption."

The U.A. president declared that it was his intention, as well as the company's, to resist any such regulations proposed by the FTC and that he considered the action of the FTC an attempt on the part of that body to regulate the production of motion pictures without any right to do so by statute or otherwise.

Bagnall Optimistic

(*Continued from page* 1)

extension of a pact with Arthur Kelly whose "Half Caste" has been delayed and is now scheduled to go into production on Jan. 1.

Re-opening of the company's office in the Philippines was voted.

The meeting did not concern itself in any way with the reported sale of the company or change in management.

35 Coast Pickets Fined $300 Each

HOLLYWOOD, June 12.—Thirty-five pickets who participated in the mass demonstration outside the Columbia studio here last November were fined $300 each today by Municipal Judge Byron Walters following their conviction on charges of disobeying a court order to disperse and stop obstructing the studio entrance. In addition, Frank Pestana, attorney for the Conference of Studio Unions, was sentenced to 60 days in jail.

Newsreelers for Academy

HOLLYWOOD, June 12. — The short subjects branch of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has asked the board of governors to ratify their action inviting newsreel men into membership. The branch has also requested the establishment of an annual Academy award for the best single newsreel issue during the year.

Olivier, Clift Knighted

LONDON, June 12.—Knighthood has been confered on Capt. S. W. Clift, past president of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, and Laurence Olivier, stage-screen star. Clift did major work throughout the war in encouraging other exhibitors to screen government morale-building films. Both were named on the King's Birthday honors list.

Mono. Wins Suit

PORTLAND, ORE., June 12.—Monogram's exchange here was awarded full judgment and attorney's fees in settlement of a two-year-old contract suit with Slaney's Capitol Theatre, Multnomah, by Judge Tooze of the Multnomah County Court. The defendant was also prohibited from building a second theatre.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK,
N. Y. (3 COPIES)

VOL. 61. NO. 116 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, JUNE 16, 1947 TEN CENTS

Air Freight Cuts to Aid Film Shipping

Two Trans-U.S. Lines Set Reduction of 20–25%

While the Interstate Commerce Commission in Washington ponders the application of the Railway Express Agency for a permanent sizeable increase in freight rates, the Civil Aeronautics Board has approved the application of United Airlines for a 20 per cent decrease in air freight charges, and American Air Lines is preparing an application for permission to cut its freight rates about 25 per cent.

The motion picture industry is involved in the actions of both media of transportation, being a widespread user of each, shipping much tonnage annually, of films, accessories, studio and theatre equipment, and other items. The newsreels also are frequent users of the airlanes.

Hearings were held last week in Washington by the ICC on the Railway Express Agency's petition for an

(*Continued on page 7*)

Pickford Due Here; May Advance Deals

HOLLYWOOD, June 15.—Mary Pickford is scheduled to leave here today for New York by plane where, it is reported, she will participate in what may be decisive discussions concerning new management for United Artists.

Representatives of Miss Pickford and Charles Chaplin, United Artists owners, have held preliminary conferences in New York with Tom J. Con-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Britain's Sheckman Now Has 50 Runs

London, June 11 (By Airmail).—Sol Sheckman, well-known North Country exhibitor, has acquired 20th Century Cinemas, Ltd., and now controls some 50 theatres. Excluding the three major circuits—ABC, GB and Odeon—Sheckman's now is one of the largest in England.

Wehrenberg Urges United Tax Front

ST. LOUIS, June 15.—Again urging the need for greater unity among exhibitors and exhibitor organizations, Fred Wehrenberg, president of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, declared here yesterday that a united exhibitor front is especially important at this time if theatres are to win any relief at all from the Federal wartime admissions tax.

"The maintenance of a united front with other exhibitor organizations is the constant aim and desire of MPTOA," Wehrenberg said. "We believe this to be especially important on the Federal tax problem."

Wehrenberg pointed out that MPTOA, through A. Julian Brylawski, cooperated with American Theatre Association's Ted R. Gamble in urging reduction of the admissions tax before the House Ways and Means committee at the hearing in Washington, May 28. He expressed the hope that other exhibitor groups would join in the tax reduction effort.

ATA Proposals for Tax-Cut This Week

American Theatres Association's draft of proposals for a theatre admission tax cut will be completed this week, according to Robert W. Coyne, executive director.

He said the draft will be submitted to the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and if the latter is in

(*Continued on page 7*)

20th Fox's Peppiatt, Gross Killed in Crash of Airliner

C. E. Peppiatt, Mid-Eastern division sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, and Sam Gross, Atlantic district manager, both of Philadelphia, were killed Friday night in the crash of the Central Pennsylvania Airlines plane in West Virginia.

In Philadelphia yesterday, Herb Gillis, 20th-Fox branch manager, reported that Peppiatt and Gross met in Pittsburgh Thursday evening and boarded the airliner the following day en route to Washington, both on tour of exchanges in their territories.

The two victims of the disaster were industry veterans. Peppiatt, who was 53 years of age, had been engaged in the business for 30 years, the last eight of them in 20th-Fox employ. Gross, 48, had been in the industry 25 years, mostly associated with the same company.

Peppiatt and Gross were promoted by 20th-Fox only two weeks ago. As manager of the Mid-Eastern division Peppiatt was given supervision over the Atlantic district, including Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Washington, and the newly named River district, consisting of Cincinnati, Cleveland and Indianapolis. Gross was elevated from Philadelphia branch manager to Atlantic district manager, the post previously held by Peppiatt.

Surviving Gross are his widow, Jeannette, and two sons, Edgar, 16, and Barry, 13. Peppiatt's survivors are his widow, Ethel; a son, Cecil, Jr., 16, and a daughter, Ann, 12.

Industry Involved in Adverse House Actions

WASHINGTON, June 15.—A House appropriations committee in effect has voted to kill the Office of Government Reports, including the motion picture section, by refusing to grant it any funds to operate during the coming year.

The motion picture section, set up originally at the film industry's request, serves as a clearing house for Government requests on the industry and for film industry pleas for Government aid. Requests for all OGR sections totaled $600,000.

The House Appropriations Committee also denied a request made by the National Archives for additional people to do repair work on its motion picture.

It cut requests of the Federal Communications Commission for increased personnel, claiming that "with proper utilization of staff and facilities, the Commission should soon catch up in large measure with the backlog of work."

FCC chairman Denny told the committee that the backlog of licenses to be processed for FM stations had only dropped from 773 to 494 in nine months.

It "deferred approval" of the return of the Securities and Exchange Commission to Washington, and it refused appropriations asked by the SEC, the Budget Bureau and Federal Trade Commission for more complete gathering and reporting of corporate statistics on the film and other industries.

WB Six-Month Profit Up $5,000,000

$14,013,000 Net Equals $1.89 Per Stock Share

A net profit of $14,013,000 for the six months ended March 1, was reported at the weekend by Harry M. Warner, Warner Brothers Pictures president. This figure, arrived at after provision of $8,400,000 for Federal taxes, and including a refund of $418,000 in foreign excess profit taxes applicable to prior years, represents a profit increase of nearly $5,000,000 over the company's $9,125,000 net recorded for the same period last year.

This half-year's net profit is equivalent to $1.89 per share on the 7,402,180 shares of common stock outstanding as of March 1. The net for the corresponding period last year was equivalent to $1.23 per share after adjusting for the two-for-one split of common stock.

Film rentals, theatre admissions, sales, etc., after eliminating intercom-

(*Continued on page 7*)

NJ Allied Forum to Weigh Ascap Threat

Ascap's proposed theatre music tax increase will receive special attention at the open-forum meeting on the second day of the annual convention of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, Edward Lachman, N. J. Allied president, said at the weekend. The three-day convention opens on June 24 at the Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City.

The organization set up a commit-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Has Pre-Rental Plan To Finance Films

HOLLYWOOD, June 15.—A plan under which exhibitors would finance production by advance payment of rentals will be presented this week to executives of the Motion Picture

(*Continued on page 7*)

Reviewed Today

"Courtneys of Curzon Street" on page 7.

Personal Mention

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, 20th-Fox president, accompanied by LEM JONES, his assistant, is back at the home office after studio conferences.

•

TERRY TURNER, RKO Radio exploitation manager; HARRY REINERS, his assistant, and ED MCGUIRE of the legal department, are visiting in Boston from New York.

•

KENNETH MCKENNA, M-G-M scenario department head, is scheduled to fly to London today from New York via American Overseas Airlines.

•

W. C. DEVRY, president of DeVry Corp., and his brother, E. B. DEVRY, head of DeForest's Training, Inc., both celebrated birthdays yesterday.

•

JACK ELLIS, New York district manager for United Artists, has returned here from Albany and Gloversville, N. Y.

•

JERRY PICKMAN, Eagle-Lion assistant advertising-publicity director, has returned to New York from Cincinnati.

•

PHYLLIS CALVERT, British film actress, and her husband, PETER MURRAY-HILL, are here from England.

•

SAM SEIDELMAN, PRC foreign chief, returned here from the Coast over the weekend.

•

SAM BRISKIN is due here today from the 20th Century-Fox Coast studio.

Msgr. McClafferty Is Honored by Loyola

HOLLYWOOD, June 15.—The degree of Honorary Doctor of Laws was conferred upon Monsignor John J. McClafferty in appreciation of his 11½ years of service as National Executive Secretary of the Legion of Decency at Loyola University graduation exercises here today. The exercises also signalized his appointment as dean of the National School of Social Service at Catholic University, Washington, as previously reported, and were followed by a reception in his honor by the Loyola faculty.

Rev. John Devlin, local executive of the Legion, and Rev. Edward J. Whelan, president of Loyola, were hosts to the Monsignor, who arrived yesterday from Washington and will return there tomorrow night.

Monsignor McClafferty will be honor guest of Louis B. Mayer tomorrow at an M-G-M studio luncheon, to be attended by Donald Nelson, Harry M. Warner, Samuel Goldwyn, Y. Frank Freeman, Henry Ginsberg, Dore Schary, Ben Thau, Edward Mannix, Sam Katz, Al Lichtman, James K. McGuinness, J. J. Cohn, Joe Pasternak, Arthur Hornblow, Sidney Franklin, Edward Arnold, and others.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ALTHOUGH exhibitors have not yet heard from Ascap concerning the Society's proposals for an increased scale of theatre music taxes, they not only are preparing and strengthening their defenses but also are planning to carry the fight to the Society.

In addition to the action by the ITOA of New York in the courts here, definite plans for actions to test the legality of the music tax levy are being formulated by Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, by the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, and North Central Allied has begun another. Other exhibitor organizations are reported to have court tests under study.

It is unlikely that Ascap will make any formal move to inaugurate new theatre music taxes before fall. Its proposed schedule of fees reportedly is still in tentative form and its principal executives who would be in line to represent the Society in meetings with exhibitors, are scheduled to leave for Europe this week to attend the International Congress of Authors and Composers in London. Conferences with exhibitors would be difficult to arrange in mid-summer when the Ascap officials are scheduled to return.

Meanwhile, there is every evidence in exhibitor organizations, that Ascap must come into its meetings with exhibitors, when it does come, prepared either to take "No" for an answer or to defend its theatre music levies on a score of court fronts and, perhaps, in hundreds of individual theatre cases.

• •

Competitive bidding experiments still being conducted around the country by several companies on a limited scale have turned up at least one problem common to all territories.

A subsequent run theatre outbids its prior run competition for several pictures and, on the strength of this, establishes itself either unwittingly or by planned advertising campaigns as a first run house in its area. The same theatre subsequently loses out on bids to its competition and, with its first run product exhausted, is forced to resort to older or weaker pictures.

Quite naturally, there is confusion among the theatre's patrons, or, where the theatre has advertised itself as a new first-run, there is loss of patron confidence in the theatre and its advertising.

Occurrences of this kind have been reported in virtually every territory in which bidding has been tested. Exhibitors should bear it in mind whenever they engage in competitive bidding and when they emerge as successful bidders for runs they have not had previously. The common-sense course would appear to be to restrict such first-run advertising to individual pictures so played, rather than extending it to cover the theatre itself, and, where such first-run advertising is not engaged in, to inform patrons by trailers or otherwise, that while every effort is being made to bring first-run product to the theatre there will be times when pictures for which there is a great demand will not always be obtainable on that basis.

The problem is a serious one in many localities and a little thought and precaution may avoid disappointment and loss of confidence by patrons.

• •

Some exhibitor organization leaders are again thinking—and talking—about the desirability of either one big exhibitor organization or, failing that, a narrowing down of the number and the gulf between the present larger organizations. There is no indication at the moment that anything more will result from the present thinking and talking along those lines than has resulted in the past.

One national Allied States figure recently expressed the view to the writer that there should, at the very least, be one national organization for independent exhibitors. He would leave the affiliated theatre field to M.P.T.O.A. which, he believes, should absorb other organizations having affiliated membership.

Allied has made considerable progress in the past year in winning new regional units as members. At the same time, however, the Allied-supported Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations has been virtually dormant and there has been no discernible progress toward an amalgamation of the I.T.O.A. of New York and Allied States.

Meanwhile, both MPTOA and American Theatres Association have successfully demonstrated that their policies and methods appeal to large numbers of independent exhibitors.

Newsreel Parade

PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S visit to Canada takes the spotlight in current newsreels. Other items are the British plan for India's freedom, taxes, fashions and sports. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 83—President Truman visits Canada. India accepts Britain plan for partition. Floods in Missouri. A safety-device demonstrated. Cow bells new fashion note in hats. Sports: tumbling champs, hare-and-hounds.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 281—Canada hears President Truman championing cause of human freedom. Thirty thousand see girl parachutist plunge to death at air show. Jewish temple, razed by Nazis, marks new day in Germany. Independence for India. French rail strike. New device to cut fire toll.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 84.—Army orders 100 of world's biggest bombers. Gen. Eisenhower's son takes a bride. Munich turns back the calendar at rededication of synagogue. Highlights of President Truman's visit to Canada. All-Navy boxing champs.

RKO PATHE, No. 86—President Truman in Canada. Sixty thousand in CIO protest in New York. Representative Knutson talks on tax cut. Reopen Munich synagogue. All-Navy boxing bouts.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 67—President Truman on goodwill tour of Canada. Death of girl parachutist mars air carnival at Birmingham, Ala. Britain offers Indian leaders plan for freedom. Latest fire-escape device demonstrated. Farmyard fashion show at Kent, Wash.

Ohio Cities Can Tax After October 1

COLUMBUS, June 15.—Ohio cities, after Oct. 1, will be permitted to levy admission taxes without limit. Only Gov. Thomas J. Herbert's signature remains to make repeal of the present state three per cent admission tax effective, following passage of the repeal measure by the Ohio Senate, 27—6. The House earlier had approved the measure, which was bitterly opposed by Ohio theatremen. Gov. Herbert has been one of the chief proponents of repeal.

The admission tax repealer failed of passage at its first vote but leaders quickly called a recess, and after a Republican caucus, the bill was approved. Earlier, the Senate taxation committee had voted informally to limit taxes that might be levied by municipalities to five per cent. This proposal was dropped when the committee reported the measure for passage.

Mayor James A. Rhodes of Columbus, who spearheaded the mayors' lobby for repeal, has indicated that he will ask the city council for a tax as high as 10 per cent.

Buddy To Assist Allen On Warner Newsreel

Ned Buddy will assist James Allen in establishing Warner Brothers' forthcoming newsreel, due in the fall.

Buddy formerly was general manager and editor of Paramount's European newsreel, and during the war was editor of United Newsreel, made jointly for the Government and the film industry. He also managed the American newsreel pool overseas.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



It's from
Paramount

—and it's the most exciting
news you've heard since
we first announced "Blue Skies"..

THE STAGE HIT THAT GAVE MORE THAN A MILLION PEOPLE MORE LAUGHS THAN YOU CAN COUNT, IS NOW READY FOR YOUR SCREEN!

Dear



3 YEARS OF CHEERS ON THE STAGE BEGAN WITH THIS BROADWAY ACCLAIM:

"Will stampede the boxoffice." . . —*N. Y. Sun*

"It'll gross a fortune." . . . . . —*N. Y. Mirror*

"Sure-fire popular success that never misses a trick." . . . . . —*PM*

"Chalk up a hit on Broadway." —*Herald Tribune*

"Enchantingly funny play." . . . —*Daily News*

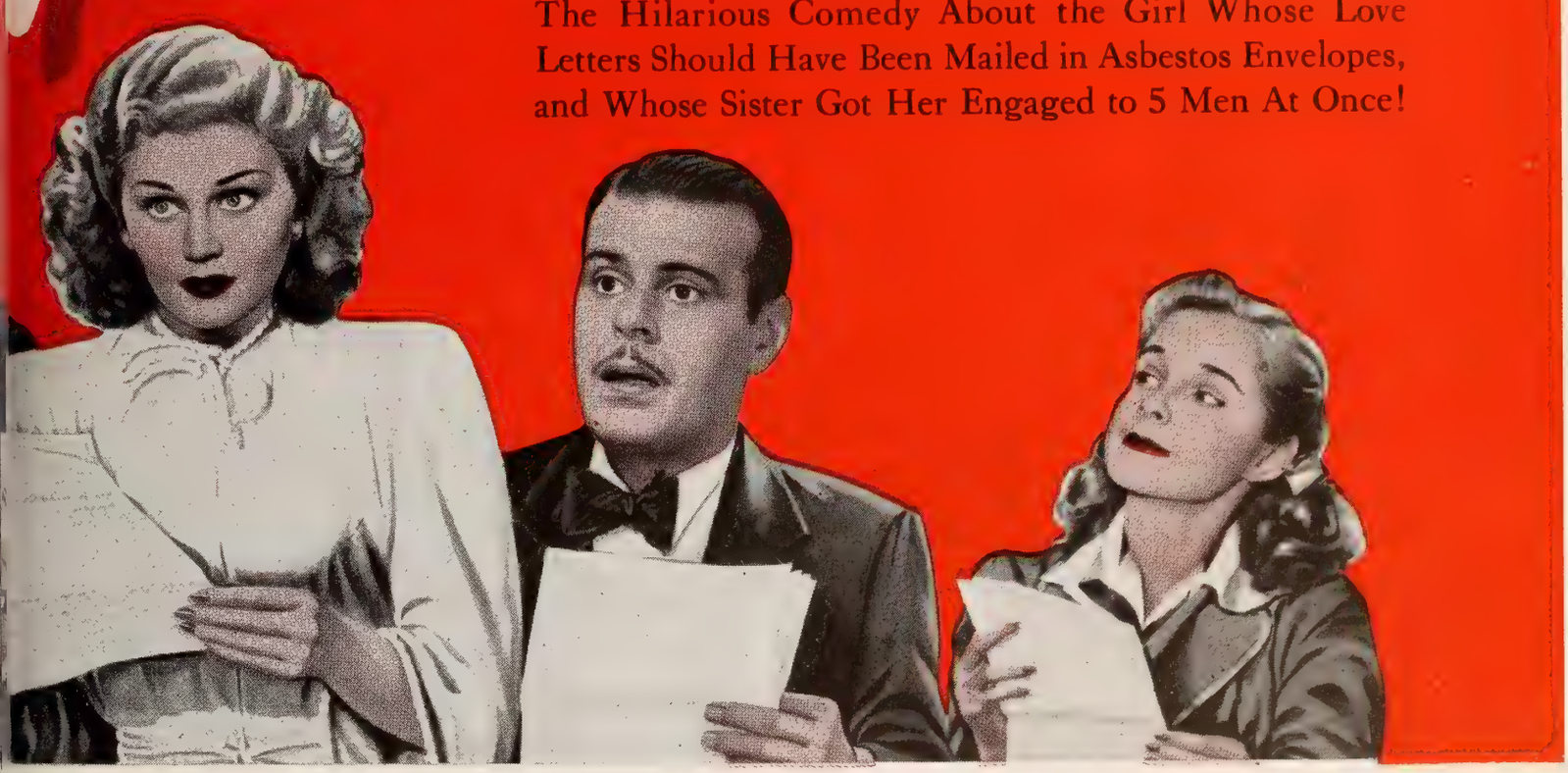
"I'll say 'Yes' to it. So will you." —*Jour-Amer.*

"Delightful comedy. An official reason for going to the theatre." . . . . . —*N. Y. Times*

NOW THE FILM TRADE PRESS SAYS: "IN EVERY WAY, THE MOVIE'S GREATER THAN THE PLAY."

Ruth

The Hilarious Comedy About the Girl Whose Love Letters Should Have Been Mailed in Asbestos Envelopes, and Whose Sister Got Her Engaged to 5 Men At Once!



Hit of the first order, fit as a fiddle for any man's theatre. Wherever laughter's a marketable commodity, the picture's a cinch. First laugh 60 seconds after opening flash and from there they came fast and loud until 'The End'." —*M. P. Herald*

A rafter-shaker that should be tagged 'With Love From Paramount.' Stamped for sure success." —*Film Daily*

One of the year's top laugh-promoters. Works through grins and chuckles and shortly whams into belly-laughs." —*Daily Variety*

"More laughs than the Broadway hit. A 'sleeper' that will have the whole town wide awake the day after it opens. Destined to give audience and exhibitor 100% satisfaction." —*Film Bulletin*

"So funny so often that dialogue lines were lost. The odds appear heavily weighted in its favor." —*M. P. Daily*

"Boxoffice slant sure-fire. An expert job from well-known play." —*Showmen's Trade Review*

"Stage hit turned into socko fun. Should register handsomely at the ticket window." —*Variety*

AND THE FUNNIEST MEN IN PICTURES SAY

It's the Funniest Picture Ever Made!



JACK BENNY says: "With men who know good pictures best, it's DEAR RUTH two to one!"

BOB HOPE says: "See it—even if you have to hike a mile...because when you do, you'll start rolling in the aisle!"





EDDIE CANTOR says: "DEAR RUTH has thirty-three laughs a minute blended into one great picture!"

GEORGE BURNS says: "I've been raving so much about DEAR RUTH that Gracie is getting jealous!"



WILLIAM HOLDEN
JOAN CAULFIELD

in

"Dear Ruth"

with

BILLY DE WOLFE
EDWARD ARNOLD
MONA FREEMAN

MARY PHILIPS · VIRGINIA WELLES
KENNY O'MORRISON
Produced by PAUL JONES
Directed by WILLIAM D. RUSSELL
Screen Play by Arthur Sheekman
Based on the Play by Norman Krasna



Dear Paramount—

Thanks for "Dear Ruth" and all these other wonderful summer shows: "PERILS OF PAULINE"—"WELCOME STRANGER"—"DESERT FURY" and "VARIETY GIRL". No wonder "Fortune" calls you "The No. 1 U. S. Motion Picture Company"!

— GUS H. EXHIBITOR

Benton Asks Funds For Overseas Plan

WASHINGTON, June 15.—The number of people seeing U. S. State Department's sponsored films would rise astronomically if the overseas information program could get the funds requested, Assistant Secretary of State William Benton believes.

Appearing before a Senate Appropriations Committee, Benton asked for the $34,000,000 denied the program by the House, including some $3,000,000 for the motion picture division. From 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 people now see the Department's films every month, Benton said.

John Begg, division director, told the committee that the budget request contemplated expanding the film division from 36 to 108 people. Some of the new personnel would be used at showings to supplement information appearing on the screen, others would conduct audience reaction tests to make the films more effective, and still others would work with large industries interested in producing educational films.

Meanwhile, at the weekend, the House moved toward passage early this week of the bill authorizing the State Department's overseas program. Adopting several corrective amendments and rejecting several crippling moves in a day-long debate, the major amendment agreed to was one setting up an 11-man group to formulate policies for the program, including a representative of the motion picture industry. Other members would represent educators, veterans, radio, newspapers, farmers, and labor, with three from business generally and one representing the State Department. The members of the group would be presidential appointees.

Air Freight Cuts

(*Continued from page* 1)

increase, and during the hearings the Motion Picture Association told the ICC that a small increase by the REA would be justified if service could be improved, but that if a large increase were granted, film companies would doubtless resort to other means of transportation for industry products. Appearing for the MPA was John B. McCullough, its conservation director.

American Air Lines will file its new schedule of rate increases with the CAB any day, with the lower rates expected to go into effect by Aug. 1. The probability is that the new scale will be 20 cents per ton mile, against the present 26½ cents. Rates will decrease comparatively as weight increases. For example, at the present rate, the cost of shipping 100 pounds from Washington to Hollywood is $30.98; the cost of shipping 16,000 pounds is $15.40.

United Airlines' decrease authorized by the CAB is effective as of July 1.

Monson Retires

CHICAGO, June 15.—Axel Monson, head of the Ampro Corp. here for 32 years, has retired from active duties, but will continue as chairman of the board. Upon his return from Europe, he will act in a consultative capacity. Monson will be succeeded as president and general manager by A. J. Palmer, former vice-president of General Precision Equipment Corp., Ampro's parent company.

Review

"Courtneys of Curzon Street"

(*Herbert Wilcox-British Lion*)

London

BEARING as it does the hall-mark of that old trusty, Herbert Wilcox, and revealing once again the charm of Anna Neagle and Michael Wilding "Courtneys of Curzon Street" will inevitably cram the shekels into the showman's jackpot.

Wilcox—having cashed in more than once on the grim, legendary, illustrious little lady known to history as Queen Victoria—seems intent on a motion picture monopoly of that terrifying monarch. Her personality and rigid philosophy dominate the picture's whole course from AD 1899 to around about this present year of grace. But Wilcox—as all theatremen are aware—can walk with kings and still keep that dividend-making common touch. And this one is no exception. When the year's count comes to be made of magic grossers "Courtneys" should be well up with the leaders.

It's a period piece in every sense of the word. Back in 1899, Mr. Wilding (dashing young ensign of Her Majesty's Life Guards) does a very pretty line of sentiment with his mother's parlor-maid (Miss Neagle) at the family servant's ball. The two extremely attractive sweethearts marry, to the dismay of all and sundry; dismay which develops into consternation when the young wife actually drops her fan at one of the aged Queen's stuffier soirees. Covered with shame at that *faux pas* Miss Neagle runs away to her native Ireland to have her baby in peace and quietude; vowing the while that she will never again see that dashing young ensign of hers.

The couple come together in the midst of a battle in World War I and remain together for the rest of their comfortable lives, the film's action being so contrived that the innocent beholder might well be persuaded that the whole pattern of Britain's subsequent disasters and triumphs, her wars and depressions, even her current dollar shortage, was evolved so that point might be lent to the career and loves of this Sir Edward and Lady Courtney.

Of course, it is sentimental, novelettish, now and again mawkish to a degree. But it is splendidly mounted and a warranted tear-jerker. Wilcox never misses a trick in the game. It is a jewelled-in-every-movement piece.

Running time, 120 minutes. General audience classification.

PETER BURNUP

Warner Net Up

(*Continued from page* 1)

pany transactions, amounted to $85,053,000 for the six months ended March 1, compared with $76,863,000 for the corresponding period in the previous year.

During the calendar year 1946 theatre attendance in Warner theatres was at an all-time high, the company reports, observing that box-office receipts for 1947 have shown a downward trend as compared with the same period last year.

The company's financial statement lists total assets of $192,664,322. Cash on hand amounted to $15,536,207, production inventories totaled $49,296,932, and current and working assets were $72,140,487, against current liabilities of $29,925,730.

ATA Tax Proposals

(*Continued from page* 1)

agreement with it, both groups are likely to file joint proposals with the House Ways and Means Committee in Washington.

Several ATA directors are said to favor ticket taxes commensurate with the price scale, beginning at 40-cent admissions and going upward to a maximum of 10 per cent.

Rep. Harold Knutson, chairman of the House group, asked for such proposals at a hearing in Washington late last month.

Coyne and Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, discussed the joint action here last week.

Clayton Robbins Retires

Clayton Robbins, formerly merchandise manager of Western Electric of Great Britain, motion picture equipment and service subsidiary of the Westrex Corp., has returned to this country from London for retirement. Robbins is the first Westrex employee to retire on pension.

NJ Allied Forum

(*Continued from page* 1)

tee recently to study the advisability of instituting court action to test the legality of Ascap's tax action, and, presumably, much of what is said at the forum meeting will be incorporated in the report which the committee will submit to the membership shortly after the convention.

Meanwhile, additional committees for the convention proceedings have been set up by Lachman. They are: Reception committee: Harry Lowenstein (chairman), Lee Newbury, Irving Dollinger, Lou Gold, Joseph Siccardi, Wilbur Snaper, A. Louis Martin, Sidney Franklin, Sam Frank, Haskell Block and Dr. Henry Brown; golf committee: Newbury, Brown; resolution committee: Gold (chairman), Jack Unger, Clark Hildinger and John Harwan; nominating committee: David Snaper (chairman), Jacob Unger, Harry Hecht, Dollinger, Newbury, Gold, Snaper, Morris Fogelson, Frank, Franklin, and Lowenstein.

Also: Women's entertainment committee: Mrs. Edward Lachman (chairman), Mrs. Harry H. Lowenstein, Mrs. Lou Gold, Mrs. Sam Frank, Mrs. Haskell Block, Mrs. Harry Hecht, Mrs. Morris Fogelson, Mrs. E. K. O'Shea, Mrs. Sam Shain and Mrs. Irving Dollinger.

Pickford Due Here

(*Continued from page* 1)

nors, former vice-president of 20th Century-Fox, concerning the presidency of U.A., and it is believed the negotiations may be further advanced during Miss Pickford's New York visit, or may be brought at least to a decisive stage.

It is understood here that the recent discussions concerning acquisition of United Artists stock by Si Fabian, Eastern circuit operator, are inactive now, but could be revived.

Plan Belgian Film Import Rent Curbs

Belgium, heretofore the only country in the world besides the U. S. where film imports have been entirely unfettered by government restrictions, is preparing to impose a 45 per cent ceiling on foreign film rentals, it is understood. The ceiling is expected to be established by governmental decree.

The official preparations for setting the rental ceiling are described here as but a forerunner of impending plans to adopt for Belgium considerably more drastic curbs on film imports, possibly quota restrictions.

Theatre business in Belgium is reported as having made the greatest recovery strides in Europe since the end of the war, with the rapidity of the recovery attributed largely to the free film import market.

Pre-Rental Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

Theatre Owners of America and National Allied by Jerome B. Rosenthal, counsel for several producers, directors and actors. Rosenthal flew to Chicago today to discuss the project with Allied president Jack Kirsch and will proceed East to confer with MPTOA general counsel Herman Levy.

Describing the plan as "cooperative in nature" and designed to include all Hollywood talent branches with a view to effecting economies production-wise, Rosenthal said here that it would lead finally to the possible reduction of admission prices without curtailing profits. Exhibitors who participate in the advance-rental plan would be given the chance to share additionally in financing production, he added.

Clearance Eliminated

CLEVELAND, June 15. — Seven-day clearance has been eliminated between the Idol Theatre, Lodi, O., and Schine's Ashland Theatre, Ashland, under a consent award signed by Judge William B. Woods, arbitrator; Max M. Jacobs, Idol attorney, and George Scharf, representing Loew's. R. D. Stone of the Idol was complainant against Loew's, with Schine Ashland Corp. as intervenor.

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE

AFTER CAREFUL ANALYSIS OF THE

STUB-ROD CONTROL TICKET BOX

THAT WE ARE PREPARED FOR THE IMMEDIATE DELIVERY OF TICKETS FOR THIS NON-COLLUSIVE BOX

GLOBE TICKET CO.

A Nation wide Service

PCA Okayed 15,000 Films in 12 Years

WASHINGTON, June 15.—More than 15,000 feature-length films and short subjects including serial were approved by the Production Code Administration in the first 12 years of its existence, according to a Motion Picture Association survey. From 1935 through 1946, the report reveals, 6,842 features and 8,221 shorts were approved, with 63.4 per cent of the features based on original screen stories.

Averaging annually only $231.14 in losses, only 16 film fires in member-operated exchanges during the 21-year existence of the conservation department are recorded.

Other statistical information culled from the survey include:

During the 12 years, 1935-1946 more than 55,000 written opinions were rendered to producers by the PCA.

More than 1,250,000 still photographs and 566,072 advertisements, posters and other pieces of promotional material passed through the advertising code administration.

Almost 30,000 titles registered from 1938 through 1946.

More than 2,500,000 placements were made by Central Casting Corp. from 1938 until this year.

Skouras and Smith At 'Amber' Promotion

An electric impulse, activated by the sound of Linda Darnell's voice, 3,600 miles away in Paris, will throw the switch tonight illuminating 20th Century-Fox's giant Broadway electric sign, here, for "Forever Amber." Present at the ceremonies will be Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century- Fox; Andrew W. Smith Jr., general sales manager; William C. Gehring, assistant sales manager, and Charles Schlaifer, advertising-publicity director.

Miss Darnell, star of the picture, will make the call over transatlantic telephone.

Grainger to Chicago For District Meet

James R. Grainger, Republic executive vice-president in charge of sales and distribution, will leave here today for Chicago, where he will hold a three-day meeting, beginning tomorrow, with district managers Sam Seplowin, Central; Nate Steinberg, Prairie; and Will Baker, Midwestern.

Edward L. Walton, assistant general sales manager, will join Grainger in Chicago on Wednesday.

Forst Will Make 3 For Twin Cities

LONDON, June 15.—Austrian producer Willi Forst will produce one film annually for the next three years for J. Arthur Rank's Twin Cities Productions. Exteriors will be filmed in Austria and interiors will be made here. The picture will have an all-British cast.

Applegate To Manage For U.A. in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, June 15.—Salem E. Applegate has been appointed branch manager here for United Artists. He succeeds Mort Magill.

Two 'U-I' Theatres Here in MMPTA

Application for membership in the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association has been filed by John J. O'Connor, vice-president of Universal-International, in behalf of the company's Winter Garden and Park Avenue Theatres here. Approval by the MMPTA board is merely a formality, Rodney Smith, executive secretary, said.

Paramount Profit Plan Up Tomorrow

Paramount stockholders will vote tomorrow, at their annual meeting here, on the management's proposal for the organization of Employees' Investment Co., with authorized capitalization of $4,000,000, in which key Paramount personnel would participate in a profit-sharing arrangement. Participation would be by investment in company stock exclusively, with capital of the proposed company owned only by executives designated by a special Paramount board committee.

Employees' Investment's capitalization would consist of notes in the principal amount of $3,760,000 and 240,000 shares of common stock at one dollar par value per share.

The notes, to bear interest not in excess of two and one-half per cent, would be purchased by Paramount or sold to banks or other financial organizations. The 240,000 shares of common would be offered to top personnel, with the first group to be accorded the oportunity of purchase up to 15,000 shares each, including Y. Frank Freeman, Leonard H. Goldenson, Austin C. Keough and Charles M. Reagan, all directors. No other directors will participate.

Henry Ginsberg, vice-president and general manager in charge of studio operations, would be given the right to purchase 24,000 shares. The total number of participants, it is planned, will approximate 41, with others to be determined on the basis of the "advantage to be gained by the corporation (Paramount) in increasing the interest of officers and key employees in the progress of the corporation."

Officers and key employees would purchase the new company's stock at two-thirds of par value.

'Duel' in Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE, June 15.—David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" will open simultaneously at five Fox-Wisconsin theatres here on July 2, in continuance of the multiple-run policy adopted for the film. The theatres here are the Strand, Downer, Venetian, Modjeska and Paradise. In addition, 20 other towns in Wisconsin and Michigan will have openings day-and-date with Milwaukee, as well as 10 additional openings in Wisconsin towns on July 3.

SRO Luncheon

Neil F. Agnew will discuss Selznick Releasing Organization's operations and expansion prospects with trade press representatives at a luncheon at "21" here on Thursday.

Europe 'Ripe' for US Ad Methods: Pincus

Exhibition in Europe has made an "amazing" recovery generally from the sad condition in which the war left it, and is ripe now for "a strong adaptation of American exploitation methods."

This is the report of Arthur Pincus, assistant advertising-publicity director of Loew's International who returned to New York last week from a four-month tour of 15 European countries. American exploitation methods are needed in every European country with the exception of England where notable promotion advances have been effected, Pincus said.

In England, Pincus added, M-G-M has established some 60 tie-in programs with stores. The British Broadcasting Co., he added, permits considerable film publicity to be broadcast, but the publicity is required to be subtly presented and must be free of obvious advertising.

Lawrence-Korda Suit To Trial Today

Trial of the Laudy Lawrence $300,000 breach of contract action against Sir Alexander Korda is scheduled to start today in Federal District court here before Judge Bernard Botein. Examination of Korda, who is represented by Louis D. Frohlich of Schwartz and Frolich, was conducted on Friday to permit him to return to England at once.

Lawrence alleges his three-year contract as Korda's representative in the United States was breached when his services were terminated. Korda contends that Lawrence's exclusive services were contracted for but that despite this Lawrence engaged in a number of other activities detrimental to his work for Korda. The trial is expected to last throughout the week.

Crockett Appointed To Sack Dallas Post

DALLAS, June 15.—James C. Crockett has been named Dallas branch manager by Alfred N. Sack, general manager of the Sack Amusement Enterprises. Crockett joins Sack after 17 years with Affiliated Distributors in Atlanta, Charlotte and New Orleans.

Sack also announced that Bob Moscow, son of the late Sam Moscow, Southern division manager for Columbia, has joined the firm as manager in charge of all Negro production, and that Jerry Musgrave, former Dallas office manager, has been promoted to the position of Sack's personal assistant.

H. J. White, 82

H. J. White, 82, father of Madeline White of Monogram-Allied Artists' Eastern publicity staff and of H. Edward White of Eastman Kodak's New York office, died at his Lynbrook, L. I., home on Friday. Also surviving are the widow and four other daughters.

Rites for Mrs. Marshall

Services were held yesterday in Markham, Va., for Mrs. William F. Marshall Sr., mother of Frank Marshall, Warner Theatres executive, with interment in Arlington, Va. Mrs. Marshall died on Thursday.

CSU to Picket Lot in Clash With IATSE

HOLLYWOOD, June 15.—The Conference of Studio Unions has declared its intention of picketing the Nassour Studio tomorrow, following notice served on the plant by the IATSE that the latter would withdraw services if any CSU workers are retained on the lot. Nassour, a rental studio used by independents, has been employing both CSU and IATSE men under an implied but unofficial agreement effected at the beginning of the studio strike and observed until now by both organizations.

The IATSE move is interpreted as the first step in a campaign to eliminate the CSU from independent plants.

Producers, SAG in New Pact Extension

HOLLYWOOD, June 15.—June 30 has been set by mutual agreement as the new deadline for negotiations between producers and the Screen Actors Guild for a new contract. Discussions began April 15 and were previously extended to May 15. Both parties, in again extending the pact, agreed that the new minimum wage scales to be set will be retroactive to May 15, expiration date of the 10-year contract.

Shelton Distribution Head for Siritzky

William Shelton, former assistant sales manager for RKO Radio in Central Europe, has been appointed general sales manager for Siritzky International's foreign film distribution organization, which also plans to build 10 theatres in the U. S.

Siritzky International has secured American distribution rights for films produced in France by Pathe Cinema, Gaumont and the French government's Union Generale du Cinema.

Charity Show Reversal

TORONTO, June 15.—Finance Minister Abbott of the Dominion Government has announced the abandonment of the proposal to ban exemption of charity performances from the Federal 20 per cent amusement tax. It had been proposed to impose the tax on non-profit shows, the programs for which include films, professional performers or horse racing.

'Stranger' Opens Thurs.

World premiere of Paramount's "Welcome Stranger," starring Bing Crosby, Joan Caulfield and Barry Fitzgerald has been scheduled for Thursday at Famous Players Canadian's Capitol Theatre in Winnipeg. The opening is planned as a salute to the 78th annual convention of the Canadian Medical Association.

Dembow Office Here

Sam Dembow, Jr., president of Producers Service Corp., and the business representative for Federal Films' "Carnegie Hall," has opened an office here. Dembow resigned as president of Golden Productions two months ago.

Managers File at SLRB

BUFFALO, June 15.—Local No. 1 of the Motion Picture Theatre Managers and Assistant Managers Union has filed a petition with the State Labor Relations Board for a hearing for managers of Basil Enterprises, Inc.; Tomorrow has been set as the date.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 117 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 1947 TEN CENTS

New Theatre Construction In High Tempo

Marked Activity Recorded In the Drive-In Field

Increased tempo of new theatre construction is continuing unabated across the country, according to reports from MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents in the field. Within the past few weeks scores of new theatres have been completed, building of many others has been started, and there has been a widespread step-up in blueprinting and planning. In each of these phases, activity has been especially pronounced in the drive-in field.

Many applications for approval of planned new theatre construction have been filed with the Civilian Production Administration. Although in many instances such approval is being held up pending a marked improvement in the availability of building materials, the noticeable regularity with which the CPA has been

(*Continued on page 7*)

Agreement Reached In 'Lab' Wage Talks

Agreement has been reached in contract negotiations between laboratory Local No. 702, IATSE, and representatives of 16 film laboratories here, with formal signing expected on Thursday. Nearly 2,000 technicians are affected.

The IATSE local won a general 15 per cent wage increase, with increases as high as 22 per cent for certain classifications. The contract will run for two years, with no one-year reopening clause.

Negotiations broke down about three weeks ago. Richard F. Walsh, international president of IATSE, intervened before sailing for Europe last week, and negotiations were then resumed. A general membership meeting of the local has voted approval of the agreement.

Church Leader Cites Quigley at Luncheon

HOLLYWOOD, June 16.—Singling out Martin Quigley, publisher of MOTION PICTURE DAILY for "special thanks," the Very Rev. Monsignor John J. McClafferty, honor guest at an industry luncheon today at the M-G-M

(*Continued on page 6*)

Grosses Good Here; 'Ruth,' 'Miracle,' 'Duel' in Top Money

In a week marked by widely varying grosses at New York's first runs, three films are vying for top boxoffice honors. One is new, the second is a holdover and third an "encore" performance. Average of the overall business is good.

"Dear Ruth," combined with Perry Como on the stage of the Paramount, completed a first week with a very hefty $100,000, estimated. The holdover, "Miracle on 34th Street," with the stage show at the Roxy, is headed for a strong $101,000 second week, this based on business during the first five days of the week amounting to $81,000. After three weeks at the Capitol and one-week runs at Loew's neighborhood houses, "Duel in the Sun" has returned to Broad-

(*Continued on page 6*)

High Court Ruling Is Delayed Again

WASHINGTON, June 16.—The U. S. Supreme Court today again withheld its decision on hearing appeals in the New York industry anti-trust case.

Presumably a decision will be announced at its session next Monday, for the court said that unless otherwise ordered, it would adjourn the present term at that time. The court usually attempts to clear up all pending business before adjournment.

The expected decision in the Petrillo case, in which the Government is asking the court to uphold a Federal Act regulating AFM practices, was also withheld.

Urge Quick Action In Hollywood 'Strike'

Hollywood, June 16.—The painters' and carpenters' unions will ask the Los Angeles Central Labor council to take immediate necessary action to enforce orders of the AFL executive council as they concern the Hollywood studio labor dispute.

In essence, the request is for enforcement of an AFL 1945 directive regarding carpentry work on sets, which has been subject to various interpretations but which remains the chief bone of contention in the continuing studio strike.

Sees a 16mm. Boom Abroad

The 16mm. field abroad will double in two years, Orton H. Hicks, Loew's International 16mm. director, forecast here yesterday following his return from a five-week tour of Europe. But Hicks qualified his prediction by excepting France, where, he said, the 16mm. market is already practically saturated.

Of such advanced stature is the narrow-gauge market in France that it is operating on complete parity with the 35mm. field there, Hicks reported. Both markets are subject to identical license and safety restrictions, and both are required to charge the same admission prices under government decree, Hicks said.

As a result, he pointed out, 35mm. theatre operators do not regard 16mm. exhibition as outside competition, but

(*Continued on page 7*)

Find Studios' Payrolls Up 120% Since '40

Average Salary Rises To $96.28 In Past Year

HOLLYWOOD, June 16. — Hollywood studios' payroll expenses have increased an average of 120 per cent since 1940, according to the Department of Industrial Relations, State of California. Employment at present is said to be one per cent over the 1940 level and 20 per cent under 1946.

Based on findings during last April and the same month of 1946, the average weekly earnings of studio employes in one year have risen almost $12, to a total of $96.28.

During April last, employes worked an average of 38.7 hours per week at the rate of $2.45 per hour, whereas in the same period of 1946 the average work week amounted to 46.2 hours at the rate of about $1.80 per hour, it was reported.

Rank Division Sales Unit Absorbed by 'U'

With the entire Universal-International sales organization now concentrating upon the distribution of J. Arthur Rank product to the same extent as U-I Hollywood-produced films, William A. Scully, U-I vice-president and general sales manager, announces that the special field sales force of the Rank division of U-I has been absorbed by the latter.

Among those who have assumed key

(*Continued on page 8*)

Bernhard Sets Four New F-C Branches

Four additional branches have been acquired by Film Classics, giving the company a total of 95 per cent of its own branches in this country, it was disclosed yesterday by the office of Joseph Bernhard. Branches are in

(*Continued on page 8*)

See Test of Television Competition Next Year

The extent to which television will offer competition to film exhibition in New York will be determined to a fairly accurate degree within the next year, theatremen here agree, basing this on the expectation that the new industry will have a potential audience approaching 500,000 in 1948.

The Radio Manufacturers Association, the membership of which includes a majority of manufacturers of television receivers, reports that the production of sets is mounting

(*Continued on page 8*)

Approve Late Work For Women in Ohio

Columbus, June 16.—Women over 21 will be permitted to sell tickets in theatres and other places of amusement in Ohio after 10 P.M., after Gov. Herbert signs the Kowalk bill, which received Senate approval following earlier House passage.

2 Reviews Today

"The Vow" and "Colonel Chabert" on page 8. Key city gross reports on page 6.

Says Korda Planned World Film 'Empire'

Sir Alexander Korda employed Laudy Lawrence early in 1946 to assist him in building a "world-wide empire of production, exhibition and distribution," Lawrence's attorney, Isidor J. Kresel, asserted in New York Supreme Court yesterday as the trial of Lawrence's breach-of-contract suit began. Korda came here from London a few months after a contract was signed and dismissed the plaintiff "without provocation," Kresel charged.

Korda's counsel, Louis Frohlich of Schwartz and Frohlich, contended that his client had no less than 32 reasons for dismissing Lawrence, one being that Lawrence "betrayed the interests of Korda and his corporation by trying to build an 'empire' for himself."

In his opening statements before Justice Bernard Botein in the non-jury trial, Kresel asked specific performance of a stock bonus deal entered into by Korda as well as $310,000 which he said was due Lawrence under his employment contract. He said the pact was to run three years with Lawrence to be compensated at the rate of $1,500 weekly the first year, $1,700 weekly the second and $2,000 weekly the third.

The lawyer also declared that Lawrence preferred to join Korda at a time when he could have become associated with either Samuel Goldwyn or David O. Selznick.

The trial will continue today.

Legion of Decency Bans 'Mom and Dad'

Hygienic Productions' feature production of "Mom and Dad" has been given a class C (condemned) rating by the Legion of Decency, because it "deals with a subject most objectionable for presentation in entertainment motion picture theatres."

"Moreover," continues the Legion, "the treatment of the subject as presented in the film is most objectionable for entertainment motion picture audiences. It ignores completely essential and supernatural values associated with questions of this nature."

Legion Classifies 7 Additional Features

The National Legion of Decency has placed Columbia's "Prairie Raiders" in Class A-1.

Rated A-II were: "Killer at Large," PRC; "Moss Rose," 20th Century-Fox; "Northwest Outpost," Republic, and "The Web," Universal-International. Placed in Class B were: "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," 20th-Fox, and "Living in a Big Way," M-G-M.

Bamberger to Speak At N.J. Allied Meet

Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will speak at the annual convention of the Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, to be held in the Hotel Ambassador, Atlantic City, June 24-26.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal-International vice-president and general sales manager, left New York yesterday for Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee and Minneapolis.

•

H. M. RICHEY, in charge of M-G-M exhibitor and public relations, leaves here today for Columbus, where he will remain for two days and then proceed to Wawasee, Ind., and Atlantic City.

•

E. ERNEST GOLDSTEIN, son of NATHAN E. GOLDSTEIN, president of Western Massachusetts Theatres, has graduated from the Law School of Georgetown University, Washington, D. C.

•

ALFRED JUNGE, M-G-M British studios art director, and HUGH FINDLAY, publicity head there, plan to leave the Hollywood studio July 3 for London after a month's stay.

•

ARY LIMA, recently promoted to Warner supervisor for Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay, has arrived in New York.

•

GRADWELL L. SEARS, vice-president in charge of distribution of United Artists, is scheduled to leave here by plane today for London.

•

C. A. SMAKWITZ, assistant upstate N. Y. zone manager of Warner Theatres, is in Hollywood.

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, vice-president and general sales manager for M-G-M, left yesterday for Chicago.

•

VETE STEWART, Warner branch manager in Seattle, is observing his 26th year with the company, while GUY G. MAXEY, office manager there, has just celebrated his 22nd year with the company.

•

ANDY ANDERSON of Photoplay Theatres, Hartford, Ky., is back at work after an operation at the Lahey Clinic, Boston. ANDERSON is a candidate for home county representative to the Kentucky legislature.

•

ARTHUR C. BROMBERG, head of Monogram Southern exchanges, Atlanta, has been appointed an honorary colonel by GOV. JAMES DAVIS of Louisiana.

•

BARBARA BLAKE, daughter of BENJAMIN K. BLAKE, Columbia short subjects producer, and MRS. BLAKE, was married here Saturday to MALCOLM GORDON of Providence and New York.

•

WILL BALTIN, secretary-treasurer of the Television Broadcasters Association, and MRS. BALTIN are the parents of a son, their second child.

•

ROY DISNEY, president of Walt Disney Prod., and MRS. DISNEY are in town from Burbank, Cal.

US Must Aid World Recovery: Johnston

PULLMAN, Wash., June 16.—The U. S. must help finance the reconstruction of a considerable part of the world, "if the world is ever to rise economically again," Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, said here today.

Speaking at the commencement exercises of Washington State College, Johnston declared that economic aid by the U. S. to destitute nations is "an investment in peace and security and the revival of world trade."

"But more important," he said, "it is a moral obligation. We cannot preach the spiritual values of democracy while we sit back and count the folding money in our sock."

De Rochemont to London

Richard de Rochemont, producer of the March of Time, conferred with President Vincent Auriol of France for over an hour before leaving Paris for London en route to New York, and entertained the French sales staff of 20th Century-Fox International at lunch, MOT discloses here. At the luncheon, Francis L. Harley, 20th's general manager for Europe, North Africa, Scandinavia and the Near East, was guest of honor.

George Long to Radiant

George Long has joined the executive staff of Radiant Manufacturing Corp., and will cover the Midwest.

Services Tomorrow For Peppiatt, Gross

PHILADELPHIA, June 16.—Funeral services for C. E. Peppiatt and Sam Gross, 20th Century-Fox sales executives, who were killed in the crash of the Central Pennsylvania Airlines plane in West Virginia last Friday night, will be held here on Wednesday.

Services for Peppiatt, who was Mideastern division sales manager, will be held at Oliver H. Blair's Funeral Chapel. Another service will be held later in Atlanta, with burial at West View Cemetery in that city.

Services for Gross, who was Atlantic district manager, will be held at Rodeph Sholom Temple, with Rabbi Louis Wolsey officiating. Burial will be in Mt. Sharon Cemetery, Springfield, Delaware County.

Services Are Held For Lou Cohen, 53

DETROIT, June 16.—The funeral of Lou Cohen, 53, Detroit picture theatre owner, was held here today from the Lewis Funeral Home. He died in Harper Hospital yesterday of a heart condition.

The widow, Sylvia, and two sons survive.

New Empire Projector

The Empire "Sound King," a 16mm. sound-silent projector, is now in full production, it was announced here by Laurence D. Ely, president of the Empire Projector Corp.

Pro-Soviet Films Not Ordered: Davies

WASHINGTON, June 16.—Joseph E. Davies, former ambassador to Russia, has denied that pressure from the White House under the Roosevelt Administration forced Hollywood to produce pro-Soviet films.

Davies made public a letter to Chairman Thomas of the House Un-American Activities Committee branding as "not true" statements charging that Davies carried to Hollywood White House orders to make "Mission to Moscow."

The Committee had charged as "some of the most flagrant Communist propaganda films were produced as a result of White House pressure."

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
John MILLS • Valerie HOBSON
In J. Arthur Rank's
"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
JOAN BENNETT
ROBERT RYAN • CHARLES BICKFORD
in
'THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH'
RKO RADIO PICTURE

Allied Artists Productions, Inc., presents
Don De Fore - Ann Harding - Charlie Ruggles
Victor Moore - Gale Storm
in Roy Del Ruth's
"IT HAPPENED On 5th AVENUE"
Doors Open 9:30 A.M. RIVOLI Continuous Performances
B'WAY AT 49TH STREET Popular Prices

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
M-G-M's TECHNICOLOR PRIZE PICTURE!
'THE YEARLING'
GREGORY PECK
JANE WYMAN
CLAUDE JARMAN, Jr.
IN PERSON
SMITH & DALE
NANCY DONOVAN
DAN CUMMING
OTHERS

WILLIAM HOLDEN • JOAN CAULFIELD
in "Dear Ruth"
with
BILLY DE WOLFE • EDWARD ARNOLD
MONA FREEMAN
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
PERRY COMO
LLOYD SHAFFER and his ORCHESTRA
HELEN CARROLL and the SATISFIERS
LARRY STORCH
THE FOUR EVANS
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

30th WEEK!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE BEST FILM OF THE YEAR!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
ASTOR
B'WAY & 45th ST.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



There's no mystery about this body!





COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

George BRENT · Joan BLONDELL

The Corpse Came C.O.D.





with

Adele Jergens · Jim Bannon · Leslie Brooks

Screenplay by George Bricker, Dwight Babcock

Directed by HENRY LEVIN · Produced by SAMUEL BISCHOFF

Based upon the novel by JIMMY STARR

Labor Trouble Shuts All Mexican Studios

MEXICO CITY, June 16.—Production of Mexican pictures has been totally stopped because of a new development in the conflict that limited for two weeks all work in studios to the making of pictures that were started before the refusal of players, directors, technicians and manual workers to accept the producers' proposition of pay cuts, in some cases as much as 50 per cent.

The producers estimate that the pay cuts would reduce their production costs by 25 to 30 per cent. They asserted lower wages are essential to a retrenchment program which they aver is the only way in which the Mexican industry can be saved from ruin.

Things got worse just when the conflict was about to end with the signing of a peace agreement. That pact remains unsigned because at the last minute the technicians' and manual workers' sections of the Picture Production Workers Union demanded wage increases of from 8 to 12 per cent, which the producers rejected.

This new dispute has made all the studios idle; not a single Mexican picture is in production anywhere in Mexico. The only pictures that are being made are both American—Warners' "The Treasures of the Sierra Madre" and 20th Century-Fox's "Casanova." Work continues on these two pictures, it is expected, because all that is being currently done on them are exteriors, requiring no studio work at present.

Mexican Owners Aid 'Recuperation' Drive

MEXICO CITY, June 16.—Exhibitors in Mexico have agreed to cooperate with the economic recuperation campaign which the government is conducting by regularly screening the trailers provided by the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union.

New Mexican Companies

MEXICO CITY, June 16.—Two more theatre operating companies have been organized here by Emilio Azcarraga and associates, operators of the first-run theatres, Cines Alameda and Olimpia, and their moveover house, Cine Bucareli, and radio stations XEW and XEQ. The new companies are the Teatro Cine Guadalajara, and the Teatro Cine Azteca, each capitalized for $400,000.

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Half of Army Runs Are Losing Money

Washington, June 16.—"Well over half" of the theatres operated on Army posts are "in the red," testimony before the House Appropriations Committee reveals.

Gen. Reynolds, head of Army Special Services, said the loss—mostly at smaller installations—is sustained by profits from theatres on larger posts.

The hearing also heard that the Signal Corps plans to make 150 reels of Class "A" films and about 40 of Class "B" during the coming fiscal year.

Films Asked to Aid 'Free Expression'

WASHINGTON, June 16.—Representatives of the Motion Picture Association and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, along with representatives of other media, have been invited to a one-day conference sponsored by the National Association of Broadcasters, on "Freedom of Expression," to be held here on June 26. It will probably discuss setting up a permanent committee of film, press and radio officials to guard against barriers to free expression.

The MPA has already announced it will be represented by its publicity director, Kenneth Clark, and, it is understood, Donald Nelson will appear for SIMPP. Representatives of other media who have been invited include: William L. Chenery, chairman of the editorial committee of the National Publishers Association; Melville Minton, chairman of the American Book Publishers Association; J. Hale Steinman, chairman of the ANPA federal laws committee, and J. Leonard Reinsch, special radio adviser to the President.

Oppose Measures on Copyright Royalties

WASHINGTON, June 16.—Juke-box manufacturers today opposed bills giving performing artists the right to copyright recordings and giving artists and composers royalties from juke-box playings.

Three manufacturer representatives testified before a House judiciary subcommittee holding hearings on the proposals. They were: W. D. Nance and Hammond Chaffetz, general counsel and Washington counsel, respectively, of the Automatic Phonograph Manufacturers Association, and D. C. Rockola, president of the Rockola Manufacturing Co. of Chicago. The subcommittee hopes to conclude its hearings Wednesday.

Elect Trans Int'l Officers

Alvin B. Baranov has been elected president of Trans International Pictures Corp. of Los Angeles. Others elected were Marc Gilbert, first vice-president; Sidney Pink, second vice-president; and Paul F. Schriebman, secretary-treasurer. The circuit will continue to be headed by Pink, with West Coast film distribution headed by Baranov, and Gilbert heading the New York office.

European Receipts Are Leveling Off

Motion picture box-office receipts in Europe are now slightly leveling-off after the phenomenal business during the period immediately following the war, according to Fred H. Hotchkiss, European manager of the Westrex Corp., subsidiary of Western Electric for motion picture equipment in foreign countries, who has returned to New York after a five-month trip throughout Western Europe, North Africa, Scandinavia and Finland.

American motion picture equipment is in great demand, he says, with theatres everywhere anxious to replace old equipment which served throughout the war years.

Demand for sound recording equipment is particularly high, according to Hotchkiss, since many European countries are starting to produce a greater number of domestic films. Hiring of skilled personnel, he adds, is extremely difficult in many regions.

Hotchkiss sees prospects for a high volume of business for the American film industrty in Europe during the coming years. Interest in American films continues keen throughout the Continent and on the British Isles, he says.

Eastern Europeans 'Prefer' US Films

WASHINGTON, June 16.—The people of Eastern Europe will crowd to see any American film, according to Frank Shea, former director of the United States Information Service in that region.

Speaking on the role of State Department films in foreign policy, Shea told an American Public Relations Association luncheon that even scientific and industrial films, distributed by the State Department, drew large numbers of people who were without American films of any kind during the war years.

Set 'Perils' Preview For Old NY Theatre

A press preview of "The Perils of Pauline," Paramount, will be held on June 24 at the Comet Theatre, one of New York City's earliest film houses.

Before the screening, representatives of the press and radio will attend an old-style luncheon at the Hotel Astor here. They will be transported from the hotel to the theatre in a fleet of ancient automobiles and hansom cabs.

A chapter from "The Exploits of Elaine," one of the Pearl White serials, and a newsreel of that period, will be screened prior to the showing.

To Revise AAF Musical

WASHINGTON, June 16.—American Film Producers in New York has been given a contract to bring up to date an Army Air Force musical, entitled "Do You Know What the Army Air Force Is?"

The film, an eight-minute black and white production with an original arrangement by David Rose, was made during the war but was never distributed. American Film Producers is also making a one-minute trailer on the 40th anniversary of the AAF on Aug. 1, which the AAF will endeavor to have shown in theatres.

Republicans May Shelve Mundt Bill

WASHINGTON, June 16.—Senate Republican leaders today were reported ready to shelve the Mundt bill, authorizing the State Department's overseas information program, should the measure be approved by the House.

Instead, it is understood, they would attempt to give the secretary of state a $6,000,000 appropriation for a limited "Voice of America" radio program, plus other small appropriations for other sections of the program considered necessary.

Sen. Ball, chairman of the Senate appropriations sub-committee on the State Department, declared that "our thinking hasn't jelled yet on the motion picture program."

Even if the Senate approves the $6,000,000 appropriation, it will face a stiff fight in the House, which denied all funds for the program, pending the enactment of authorizing legislation.

Petersen Silent on German Film Plan

WASHINGTON, June 16.—Clarification of the War Department's German film industry policy was blocked again when Assistant Secretary of War Howard Petersen refused to answer questions on the status of the German program.

Peterson, who has just returned from a two-week tour of Germany and Austria, told a press conference Friday that no information on the program would be forthcoming until he and Civil Affairs Division spokesmen have conferred with Eric Johnston and Francis Harmon, president and vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, respectively, this week.

Textor To Head AMG Information Control

WASHINGTON, June 16.—Col. Gordon E. Textor will succeed Brig. Gen. Robert McClure as chief of the information control division of the AMG, the War Department announces. The division includes the film section.

Textor was formerly director of the construction and facilities division of the War Production Board, deputy director of the special planning division of the War Department, and deputy director of the War Assets Administration.

Seattle Trust Suit Hearings Held Today

SEATTLE, June 16.—Hearings in the anti-trust suit brought by the Theatre Investment Corp. and the Venetian Theatre Co. will begin tomorrow and last for two or three days.

301 Reelects Matthews

HARTFORD, June 16.—Freddie Matthews has been reelected business agent of local No. 301, IATSE, New Britain. Newly-elected officers are: Joe Kneeland, president; Dan Grenier, vice-president; Felix Stapanik, secretary; Kneeland, Grenier, Freddie Matthews and Stapanik, executive board; Howard Richardson, recording secretary.

BOX OFFICE

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Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

A few houses are heading for plus-average figures, but average or below are being registered on several fronts. Weekend weather was warm. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 17-20.

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox) — RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average, 7 days: $5,000)

CALCUTTA (Para.) — RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000)

FRAMED (Col.) — RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)

MURDER ON THE YUKON (Popular) —RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Gross: $500. (Average, for double feature: $1,000)

PHILO VANCE RETURNS (PRC)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $800. (Average, for double feature: $1,600)

REPEAT PERFORMANCE (E-L)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Richard Basehart on stage opening day. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,000)

TIME OUT OF MIND (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-75c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $7,500)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) — RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c 75c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $10,000)

VIGILANTES OF BOOMTOWN (Rep.) — RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Gross: $500. (Average, for double feature: $1,100)

WESTERN UNION (20th-Fox reissue) — RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 4 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average, 7 days: $5,000)

WILD COUNTRY (PRC)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $850. (Average, for double feature: $1,600)

ATLANTA

The weather was unsettled and business was generally in the doldrums. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 19:

BOOMERANG — (20th-Fox) — PARAMOUNT (2,447) (30c-50c). Gross: $7,400. (Average: $7,900)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox) —FOX (4,661) (30c-50c). Gross: $18,500. (Average: $19,000)

DISHONORED LADY (UA) — LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (30c-50c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $14,000)

DRESSED TO KILL (U-I) and WILD BILL HICKOK RIDES (WB reissue) — CAPITAL (2,446) (25c-44c). Gross: $5,100. (Average: $5,200)

THE SEA HAWK (WB reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB reissue)—ROXY (2,446) (30c-50c). Gross: $5,600. (Average: $5,700)

BALTIMORE

A circus as well as heavy thunder showers over the weekend effected grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 19:

THE ADVENTURESS (E-L) — TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-44c-56c). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,500)

CALCUTTA (Para.) — KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $13,500)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—CENTURY (3,000) (advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $35,000. (Average at regular prices of 29c-37c-46c-54c-56c: $14,500)

IT HAPPENED ON 5TH AVENUE (Mono-Allied Artists) — STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $16,500)

MICHIGAN KID (U-I)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). Kith a stage show. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,500)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox) —NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,000)

RAMROD (UA)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c) 4th week. Gross: $3,375. (Average: $5,500)

SEA DEVILS (RKO Radio reissue) and ALLEGHENY UPRISING (RKO Radio reissue)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c and 56c weekends). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000)

THIS HAPPY BREED (U-I) — LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-55c) 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,000)

TORONTO

Business showed continued signs of seasonal weakening and uncertain weather did not help. A bright spot was the holdover of "The Farmer's Daughter" for a third week at Shea's Theatre, while "Sinbad the Sailor" was healthy in its second week at two other Famous Players houses. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 20:

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $14,800)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M) — LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $13,800)

THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB) and JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG (20th-Fox)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $6,800)

THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB) and JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG (20th-Fox) — CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)

THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.) and WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $8,900. (Average: $11,400)

SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio) — TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,500)

SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio) — EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,800)

STALLION ROAD (WB) — IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $14,300)

Horror Films Attacked

SAN FRANCISCO, June 16. — "War" has been declared here on juvenile crime-and-horror matinees, by the Lafayette Parent-Teachers Association. Some 318 mothers are preparing for a drive against such subjects with neighborhood theatres the first target.

'Honeymoon' in N. Y.

"Lost Honeymoon," Eagle-Lion comedy starring Franchot Tone, Ann Richards, Tom Conway and Frances Rafferty, has been booked into Loew's State here on Thursday, instead of June 26, as announced earlier.

New York Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

way, at the Victoria, and the results are amazingly good. The film, playing six shows daily at 90 cents to $1.25 during weekdays, and 95 cents to $1.50 on weekends, is likely to wind up its first week at the Victoria with $26,000.

At the Music Hall, "Great Expectations" and the stage presentation are still drawing good money, warranting holding over for a fifth week. The show brought $77,000 Thursday through Sunday and probably will conclude the fourth week with $120,000. "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir" will follow on June 26.

"It Happened on 5th Avenue" is mildly successful in its debut at the Rivoli with a first week's gross estimated at $20,000. At the Globe, "The Private Affairs of Bel Ami" is doing borderline business, put at $15,000 for the initial week, with no decision as yet on whether to hold over.

"Cheyenne," along with Ted Lewis in person, figures to provide the Strand with a moderate $40,000 in a second week and will continue. "Possessed" at the Hollywood seems good for $23,000 in a third week.

"The Web" is holding up fairly effectively at the Criterion where $19,000 is looked for in a second week. The picture holds until June 25 when "Ivy" bows in. "Brute Force" will follow. "High Barbaree" and Guy Lombardo, which combined to give the Capitol over $65,000 in the opening week, are likely to ring up $48,000, profitable, in the second.

Universal-International is still experimenting with its Park Avenue Theatre here. A first run, J. Arthur Rank's "A Lady Surrenders," and 35 minutes of newsreel material will be presented beginning Thursday on a continuous performance, popular-price basis.

The present Park tenant, "Carnegie Hall," probably will take $3,000 in its last four days. The same picture in a seventh week at the Winter Garden probably will do $18,000, fairly substantial. "New Orleans" will follow on Thursday.

"Best Years of Our Lives" continues at a good boxoffice clip at the Astor where $27,000 is apparent for a 29th week. A first week of the 20th Century-Fox reissue combination "Drums Along the Mohawk" and "Swanee River," should give the Gotham a healthy gross estimated at $11,000. At the Palace, "Woman on the Beach" is running mildly with $13,500 seen for the second week.

Roach Signs Buchanan

Buchanan and Co. will handle magazine, radio and cooperative newspaper national advertising campaigns for Hal Roach's "Comedy Carnival." Scheduled for early fall release by United Artists, the picture inaugurates a Roach program devoted exclusively to comedy.

Cut Power for K. C. Air Conditioning

KANSAS CITY, June 16.—Word has reached Kansas City exhibitors that the Missouri Public Service Commission has approved a proposed curtailment of electrical service to large-scale users for air conditioning—including theatres. Restriction would be to customers using more than 10-horsepower comfort cooling systems, as designated by the power company; and to five hours, or fewer, d[illegible] daylight.

Kansas City exhibitors appeared before the commission and suggested that they would be glad to reduce current consumption through other means such as cutting down decorative illumination and display in order that the air conditioning systems might be permitted operation to the fullest extent required by conditions.

Exhibitors have said that while the power company has been given approval for its curtailment of air conditioning uses of electricity, they expect to show the power company that it can avoid such curtailment.

Church Leader

(*Continued from page* 1)

studio, praised the cooperative attitude of the industry, church leaders and the Legion of Decency's Catholic, Jewish and Protestant constituency in the course of his 11½ years as the Legion's executive secretary. More than 300 assembled industry leaders and screen stars participated in the tribute to the Catholic leader.

Citing the cooperation accorded the Legion by the press, Monsignor McClafferty declared: "In this connection I wish to single out for my special thanks for his professionally journalistic and unique contributions to the problem of morality and decency in pictures Mr. Martin Quigley. He has known our problems at first hand, and he has a keen, sensitive perception of objective morality and of the moral effects of motion pictures."

In defining decency as signifying "more than mere propriety in manner, dress and conduct," Monsignor McClafferty continued: "That which is truly decent is that which becomes, befits and is suited to the dignity of the human person.

"Like atomic energy which affects the race for generations, the light of the motion picture, with its great persuasive power, also effects mankind for generations. Therefore, we must control the light of the motion picture. . . so that its effects will be beneficial instead of destructive to the minds, souls and bodies of the people of the world," he said.

Accompanying the church dignitary at the luncheon were Rev. Edward J. Whelan, S.J., president of Loyola, and Rev. John Devlin, local representative of the Legion of Decency. Monsignor McClafferty left tonight for Washington to assume his duties as Dean of Social Sciences at Catholic University.

"VARIETY GIRL HAS 40 FAM

New Theatres

(*Continued from page* 1)

giving the "green light" is serving to stimulate high hopes generally.

A partial listing of current new theatre planning, building or openings in various sections of the country follows:

ALABAMA — The new $120,000 Bama Theatre has been opened in Alabama City, and another house will open there shortly. Building of John Lakeman's new $120,000, 7[illegible]eat theatre in Haleyville will begin [illegible]ntarily. Roy Martin, president of M[illegible]n Theatres, Columbus, Ga., has announced that he will soon build a new theatre in Andalusia. The 460-seat, open air Beach Walk-In Theatre, owned by Stephen S. Riggs and Raymond A. Gartman, has been opened in Fairhope on Mobile Bay. The Office of the U. S. Housing Expediter has approved the construction of a new theatre in Jackson by John T. Waterall.

CALIFORNIA—Civilian Production Administration approval has been given for construction of a new 600-seat theatre to be built in Farmersville by Rotus Harvey. Davis A. Williams' new River Theatre in Guerneville will be opened shortly. Starlite Theatres' new $225,000 drive-in on the highway between El Camino Real and Bayshore will be completed by July 1, James B. Howell, Jr., president, has announced. New drive-ins are scheduled for San Francisco and San Mateo county. Golden State Theatres will use the infield of its $1,000,000 Oakland Speedway for construction of a new drive-in. Gordon Allen's new drive-in theatre will open in Hayward this month. August Panero is awaiting CPA permission to construct a new theatre in Fowler. Frank Panone, John Forde and Harry Kornblum will erect a new drive-in north of Boulder Creek. Frank Peters is seeking a suitable site for a new theatre in Escalon. Golden State Theatres has opened its new San Lorenzo Village Theatre. Construction work is nearly complete on the 1,400-seat Ritz in San Francisco. Guy Meek has announced plans to build drive-ins in San Jose and near Palo Alto. Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Pease have purchased a site in Exeter for building of a new 1,000-seat house.

COLORADO—A $500,000, 1,700-seat first-run house is planned for Denver by Panayes G. Dilkeyou, with construction to begin as soon as CPA approval is given. John Wolfberg and Harold Cohen have started construction of a new $115,000, 750-car drive-in in Aurora.

CONNECTICUT—Construction of a new drive-in, backed by a group of businessmen, has started between New Hartford and Winsted. Glackin and LeWitt Theatres has announced plans to purchase land in New Britain for construction of a 2,000-house, first-run house. Opening of E. M. Loew's new Hartford drive-in will take place shortly.

FLORIDA — Jacksonville will have two new theatres when building restrictions are lifted; one is scheduled for Jacksonville Beach at a cost of $175,000, and the other will be built at Neptune Beach. The Martin Theatres will soon build another theatre near De-Funiak Springs. E. N. Claughton's new 1,000-seat theatre scheduled for Coral Gables will be put into construction shortly.

GEORGIA—J. E. Martin has opened his new Grand Theatre in Montezuma. Stein and Floyd Theatres are preparing plans for a new house in Ashburn. A site has been secured for a new theatre in Cordele, with building awaiting CPA approval.

INDIANA—Blueprints have been completed for building by Silver Raley of his new William Tell Theatre in Tell City.

KANSAS—A new 350-seat theatre, first in the town, has been opened by Fred R. Munson in Lakin.

KENTUCKY—Contract has been awarded by Foster Lane for construction of a new 624-seat theatre in Williamsburg. McAdoo Bruington's new Owensboro house will be opened momentarily. Bonnieville Amusement's new Bond Theatre is nearing completion in Bonnieville. M. H. Spark's New Strand Theatre will be opened in Edmonton this month. Another drive-in will be built by Ray Toepfer and Lida Cummins in Lexington. A new Negro theatre will be constructed in Lousville by Dudley Williston Enterprises of Indianapolis. Herman Packs' new theatre in Var Lear has been scheduled for opening this month. A $125,000 combination drive-in and outdoor stadium theatre is scheduled for the Preston Highway near Louisville by Franklin L. Sieveking, Jr., of New Albany, Ind. July 1 has been set as opening date for Otto Marcum's new St. Clair Theatre at Lebanon Junction. Broadway Amusement of Covington has opened its new drive-in in Florence. Construction is expected to start shortly on the new theatre which Arthur Morris has planned for Dawson Springs. Russell McClanahan will open his new Irvine Theatre, Irvine, on July 1. The new, 350-seat Rex Theatre has been opened by Lawrence Johnson in East Jenkins.

LOUISIANA — Joseph Alex will begin building a new Negro theatre in suburban Baton Rouge. Pittman Brothers' new $350,000, 3,000-seat Rex Theatre has been opened in Baton Rouge. A new 5,000-seat theatre is included in real estate owner Chester W. Owens' planned $7,600,000 dwelling and shopping center in New Orleans. Clyde LeBlanc and Sarvey Broussard will open a new Negro theatre in Crowley this month. The 850-seat Broadmoor Theatre, owned and operated by T. E. McElroy and O. D. Harris, has opened in Shreveport. A new drive-in has been opened in Lafayette by Lois Michot, Jr. Harold Brothers' new Winnfield house for Negroes will open June 20. Another new Negro theatre, P. C. Simpson's Star, will open at Homer on June 19. New theatres have been opened in Livingston, Leonville and Rayne.

MASSACHUSETTS — Warner Brothers have completed preparations to build a new theatre in Newburyport. Richard J. Wellman has opened the recently-constructed new theatre at Orange.

MINNESOTA — The community council of Golden Valley, Minneapolis suburb, has granted Gordon Greene a license to build a new theatre.

MISSISSIPPI—Dave W. Wilbert has announced he will soon open his new theatre in Columbia.

MISSOURI—Flexer Theatres has been granted a permit to erect a $100,000 drive-in theatre on the outskirts of St. Louis, with space for 700 cars to be provided. The St. Louis Planning Commission has approved a 27-acre St. Louis drive-in projected by the Fred Wehrenberg Circuit. Building has begun on Jack Stephenson's new 400-seat "airdrome" theatre at Monett.

MONTANA — CPA approval has been issued for conversion, at a cost of $35,000, of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall at Kalispell into a new theatre, to be known as the Orpheum.

NEBRASKA—J. E. Macke has opened his new Mullen Theatre in Mullen.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—Peter Latchis has announced plans for construction of a new theatre at Newport. Construction has started at Enfield on a new theatre which will be operated by Maurice LaBlame and Paul Archambault.

NEW JERSEY — Walter Reade Theatres has started construction on its new 3,500-seat Main Street Theatre in Asbury Park. Architect John J. McNamara's blueprints for Belray Enterprises' new theatre in Newark have been approved by the city.

NEW YORK — Construction of a new drive-in in Erie County, near Buffalo, by James D. Fitzpatrick and Donald C. Hines has been approved by the Office of the U. S. Housing Expediter.

NORTH CAROLINA—J. B. Gregg's new drive-in at Lincolnton has been opened. Plans for construction in Charlotte of a $100,000, 500-seat theatre have been announced by R. P. Pinson, owner of the Carolinas branch of the Astor Pictures Exchange. The Legendre-Trincher Company's new $75,000 North Charlotte theatre will be built immediately upon receipt of CPA approval. H. and S. Theatres has announced plans to build a new 500-seat theatre at Mt. Pleasant. Construction has started on T. C. Frazier's new 400-seat theatre in Silver City. Carey Caudell has opened his new Danco Theatre in Wallace. Another drive-in at Lincolnton, being built by A. E. Miler, is nearing completion. Plans for construction of a drive-in between Concord and Kannapolis have been announced by H. D. Hearn, Charlotte theatre-owner.

OHIO—Castle National Theatres has received government approval for a drive-in in Fairview. The 700-car drive-in, now being constructed by Central Drive-In Theatre Co., of Cleveland, in Mansfield, is scheduled to open next month.

OREGON — Government approval has been received by Art W. Adamson for construction of a $59,972, 600-seat theatre at Albany. Further construction on Charles Shaney's partly-built theatre at DeLake has been temporarily enjoined by U. S. District Court pending investigation of CPA assertions that the structure was being erected in violation of the Veteran's Housing Act. Ted Gamble's new Century Theatre has opened in Portland. Mrs. Golda Wolman's new Dream Theatre, seating 400, has opened in Drain.

SOUTH CAROLINA — S. J. Workman plans construction of a new $60,000 theatre in Woodruff. Opening of Jesse Cox's new Carver Theatre at Rock Hill took place recently. Frank Cope has obtained a permit for construction of a $25,000, 900-seat Negro theatre in Greenville. H. B. Ram Theatre Enterprises has slated a new theatre for Johnston. Building has started on Lee Little's $125,000, 1,000-seat theatre in Camden. B. B. Anderson has purchased a site in Kingstree for erection of a new theatre. Star Theatres has a $50,000 theatre slated for Clemson. At Easley a new $35,000 theatre is being planned by Harold E. Armistead.

TENNESSEE — Construction of a new Independent Theatres' house, to seat 700, will begin shortly in Rossville. C. S. Adams' new theatre in Royal Station is scheduled for opening soon.

VIRGINIA — Architect J. Coates Carter has completed blueprints for the new theatre which will be built by Allen D. Simpson and Grady W. Gregory in Chatham.

WASHINGTON — A new $300,000 neighborhood theatre has been scheduled for Spokane by Inland Theatres, Frank Harris, general manager, reports.

U. S. Approves 17 Theatre Construction Projects

WASHINGTON, June 16.—Seventeen more theatre construction projects have won Government approval.

They are: L. W. Watts, Vivian, La., theatre; William Bailey, South Bay, Fla., theatre; Tri-Delta Amusement Co., Douglas, Ariz., maintenance and repair of theatre building; Louis Venous and Ernest B. Vishnefake, Fort Worth, Tex., projection booth for outdoor theatre; and Clifford W. Morris, Modesto, Cal., theatre.

Also: Neal Robinson, Crestview, Fla., theatre; A. Ernest Massman and Walter Thompson, Columbia Falls, Mont., theatre addition; Gilbert Romero, New Iberia, La., theatres; Underwood and Ezell, Beaumont, Tex., drive-in; Harold J. Resweber, St. Martinville, La., theatre.

Also, William Greene, Palmetto, Ga., theatre; Yellowstone Amusement Co., Martin City, Mont., theatre completion; C. W. Duncan, Wetumka, Okla., theatre; Ernest and Percy Pherson, Rutland, N. D., theatre; Louise Mask, Bolivar, Tenn., theatre; Polk Realty Co., Des Moines, foundations for an open-air drive-in; John A. Dempsey, Augusta, Ga., theatre and recreational center.

Cassino Rises Anew, Has 16mm. Theatre

The Italian village of Cassino which was leveled completely by bomb and shell during World War II, is so far advanced in its rebuilding that it now supports a 16mm. theatre, its only theatre thus far, it was reported here yesterday by Orton H. Hicks, Loew's International 16mm. director, who has just returned from a five-month tour of Europe.

16mm. Boom Abroad

(*Continued from page* 1)

have come to accept it as intra-industry competition. Hicks said he cannot see why the same development should not be realized in other countries, except in the U. S., where, he pointed out, transportation facilities provide easy accessibility to regular theatres.

There are some 3,000 "active" 16mm. licensees in France, representing about 13,000 mobile and static units, Hicks reported. Loew's International has thus far released two blocks of 10 films to these and is ready to launch a third block, he said. By comparison, he said, Universal has 20 16mm. operations in every country are RKO Radio has 10, and Columbia has just begun to enter the picture. Loew's 16mm. operations in every country are completely integrated with its 35mm. operations in terms of booking, accounting, etc., and such handling has proved eminently successful, Hicks said.

However, because of inferior equipment in France, profits are jeopardized in 16mm., since not more than 25 individual print bookings can withstand treatment from the antiquated projectors. In the U. S., a 16mm. print can endure 75 individual bookings. Hicks said part of the blame for the short life of prints in France lies in the poor-quality acetate base provided by French laboratories. In terms of the entire foreign field, however, Loew's is operating solidly in the "black," Hicks disclosed.

In Distribution Deal

Alliance Films, Ltd., of Toronto, and Leo Cohen, distributor of foreign films, here, have made a distribution deal for "Dente per Dente," based on Shakespeare's "Measure for Measure," for Canada. The picture will be released in the U. S. through Hoffberg Productions, according to Cohen.

[illegible] PARAMOUNT STARS...

Delay Policy on FM Terminated by FCC

WASHINGTON, June 16.—The Federal Communications Commission has terminated its policy of reserving certain class A and class B FM channels. It will consider and act on applications for such facilities as promptly as possible after that date, effective July 1.

Under the policy, one out of every five class B channels in an area to which at least five channels have been assigned has been withheld since July 17, 1946. Class A channels 297, 298, 299, and 300 have been withheld since April 3 of this year.

The new policy will make an additional 100 class B channels available, including four in Los Angeles, three in San Francisco, three in Chicago and four in New York.

The commission has also adopted a revised tentative allocation plan for class B FM stations. It provides that pending determination by the commission of interference rations for 400 kc and 600 kc channel separation, "stations normally will not be authorized to operate in the same city or in nearby cities with a frequency separation of less than 800 kc." Moreover, class B stations will not be authorized in the same metropolitan area with less than an 800 kc frequency separation. FCC said no change had been made in the total number of channels allocated to any city or area.

Video Competition

(*Continued from page* 1)

steadily. The total for last month is estimated at 9,000.

All three stations operating in this city at present are on the air between 20 and 35 hours weekly and sets in use here are unofficially put at 16,000. The tremendous increase in program hours stems mainly from the coverage of the home games of New York baseball clubs. National Broadcasting covers the Giants, Columbia Broadcasting focuses its cameras on the Brooklyn Dodgers and DuMont reports the Yankee games.

What are described as conservative estimates within the video trade the number of televiewers per set are put at four, this taking into account the potentially sizeable audience where a "commercial" receiver is operating, such as in restaurants, taverns, hotels and the like.

A general feeling among exhibitors queried here is that television's dramatic shows are far too inferior at present to constitute a threat of competition but many recognize that sporting events are capable of diverting possible customers from the theatre to a television set.

One prominent independent circuit operator expressed concern over the extent to which the product of the film companies may be made available to a television station as a means of additional revenue after the product has made the rounds of regular theatre exhibition. This is done on a very limited basis at present and the films involved are aged to the point of offering little in genuine entertainment value, he conceded, but he warned that it might become a growing practice, eventually harmful to theatre business.

Reviews

"The Vow"

(*Artkino*)

THIS Soviet film with English subtitles should be seen by executives of the American motion picture industry who wish to do film business with Russia. In a larger sense, it should be seen by U. S. Government officials, newspaper editors and columnists, teachers of international relations and those members of the public who are seriously interested in studying Soviet Russia.

"The Vow" is important because it is official interpretation for the Russian people of Stalin, some of his actions, and important aspects of recent history. It shows in an amazing manner the thinking and propaganda tactics of the present leaders of the USSR.

The film both deifies and humanizes Stalin. It makes a continuous—and continuing into the future—appeal to extreme Russian nationalism, isolation and suspicion of the rest of the world. Its presentation of the origin of the late war and other points of recent history is astounding.

The film opens in 1924 when Stalin succeeded Lenin. In addition to showing Stalin and other Soviet leaders from that time to now, the film tells the story of a family which works, suffers and fights for Russia. Many parts of the film are visually impressive with exteriors in the Red Square and a number of interiors of the Kremlin.

"The Vow" was directed by Mikhail Chiaureli and was produced at the Tbilissi Studios. Mikhail Gelovani plays Stalin; S. Chiatsintova, the mother, has the chief supporting role.

Running time, 100 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, June 21.

M. Q., JR.

"Colonel Chabert"

(*Siritzky International*)

PATRONS of foreign films are in for a pleasurable experience in the French importation, "Colonel Chabert," based on the novel by Honore de Balzac. Marked with splendid period settings, the film is in true Gallic fashion, and speaks simply, yet eloquently, of the ironies of life. As a point of added appeal, it is one of the last films made with the late Raimu, who, in the title role, gives a superb characterization.

The story portrays a colonel, long presumed killed in battle, returning to civilian life where he finds his wife has remarried into nobility. There follows a long struggle by the colonel to reestablish his identity and thereby regain his financial rights. However, instead of understanding from his wife, he meets with her treachery, which at one point almost results in his being tricked into an insane asylum.

Time passes, and the onetime military hero is reduced to poverty. He finally enters the workhouse, where despite last-minute proof of his former estate, he elects to remain as a refuge from the hypocrisies of life. Marie Bell plays the colonel's wife impressively. Rene Le Henaff directed.

Running time, 93 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, June 20.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Quotas Exceeded in U-I Sales Campaign

Quotas have been exceeded to date in the initial standings by an average of more than four per cent by Universal-International's 31 branches in the company's "Nate J. Blumberg-J. Arthur Rank Good Business Drive," according to William A. Scully, U-I vice president and general sales manager.

Leading division in the 22-week sales drive thus far is the Eastern division, headed by Fred Meyers. The district headed by Ed Heiber, which includes Des Moines, Kansas City and Omaha branches, is the leading district while the Denver branch, headed by Mayer H. Monsky, holds top standing of the branches, with 204.84 per cent.

Rank Force Absorbed

(*Continued from page* 1)

positions in the U-I sales force are: Lester Zucker, who has become U-I manager in Cleveland, succeeding Max Cohen who has resigned; Joe Gins who has become U-I manager in Buffalo, succeeding J. J. Spandau who has also resigned, and Joe Oulahan, who is acting as special U-I distribution representative in Washington.

Jules Weill, who was special representative on the Rank pictures handled by U-I, has resigned.

Bernhard Sets 4

(*Continued from page* 1)

Dallas and Atlanta where the franchises were acquired from John Franconi and John Mangham, respectively, and the company is also opening new branches in Philadelphia and Boston, while negotiations are underway for a Detroit branch.

At present, Bernhard is on the West Coast negotiating with independent producers for the release of product. F-C also has plans underway for the eventual production of its own pictures.

Buys Video Equipment

CHICAGO, June 16.—Nearly $300,000 worth of video equipment has been ordered by WGN, Inc., for Television Station WGNA. Most of the equipment will come from General Electric while mobile units have been ordered from RCA. WGNA expects to operate experimentally in October and to produce commercially by Jan. 1.

Gettinger Resigns

Walter Gettinger has resigned as head booker and buyer of the Laff-movie circuit to take over the Casino Theatre in Pittsburgh.

Turner Joins PRC

Wilson Turner has joined Producers Releasing Corp. as salesman in the Harrisburg territory.

Hollywood

Hollywood, June 16

AN ORIGINAL story by Peter Viertel, "The Children," drama of Europe's displaced, has been purchased by United States Pictures to follow "Ever the Beginning" as a Warners' release. Lilli Palmer and Sam Wanamaker will be co-starred in it.

•

As a sharp turnabout from producing such films as "Dillinger" and "The Gangster," King Brothers plan to glorify the upholders of the law. They announce purchase of an original, "Behind the Star," a drama exploiting the heroism of the American policeman. Jean Negulesco gets the directorial chore on "Young Man with a Horn," from Dorothy Baker's novel of jazz musicians during the early 20's, for Warners. Jerry Wald is to produce. . . . Ray Milland has been given the starring role in "The Sealed Verdict," from a yet unpublished novel recently purchased by Paramount. Milland is presently in England starring in the Paramount British film, "So Evil My Love," a Hal Wallis production. . . . Ilona Massey and John Carroll have been set to co-star in Republic's "Monterey" which Joseph Kane will produce and direct. . . . Felix Bressart and Benny Goodman are cast to join Danny Kaye in the Sam Goldwyn Technicolor production, "That's Life," which goes before the cameras this week.

•

Ann Sheridan's next starring role at Warner Brothers will be in "Scandalous," Norman Krasna comedy. Jerry Wald will produce and Vincent Sherman will direct. . . . Veteran actor Ralph Morgan has been signed for a doctor's role in the Pickford-Rogers-Cohn Triangle film, "Sleep My Love," which Douglas Sirk is directing. . . . Following his two-picture loanout to RKO Radio, Alexander Knox will return to Columbia to share starring honors with Susan Peters in "The Sign of the Ram." . . . Warners has signed Robert Hutton and Joyce Reynolds to new seven-year pacts.

•

Frank Conroy, stage and screen actor, joins the cast of "Mary Hagen" which Alex Gottlieb is producing and Peter Godfrey directing for Warners. . . . Ellen Corby replaces Jessica Tandy in RKO Radio's "I Remember Mama," being produced by Harriet Parsons for that studio. . . . With a newly assigned role in Warners' "Love At First Sight," Ernest Truex marks his 50th anniversary as an actor. Frederick De Cordova is directing. . . . Former child star Jackie Searles, now in his early 20's, will make his screen return, after five years in the Army, in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "Virtuous," which Norman Taurog is directing as the next Van Johnson-June Allyson co-starring vehicle.

W. J. McG.

'Possessed' Pre-Releases

"Possessed," Warner Brothers production now in its third week at the Hollywood Theatre here, and scheduled for general release on July 26, will begin a long schedule of pre-release runs during the week of July 16 at the Newman Theatre, Kansas City; Ambassador, St. Louis, and Capitol, Little Rock.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 118 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 1947 TEN CENTS

Junior Prices Stymied by 20% U. S. Tax

Exhibitors See Need of New Rate for Students

MINNEAPOLIS, June 17.—Widespread demand of "teen-agers" for junior and student admission prices at film theatres may soon place the Federal Government in the middle of a new fight to re-determine the application of the 20 per cent ticket tax in relation to special low admissions for children between 12 and 18 years of age, according to an exhibitor spokesman here.

Federal law requires that regardless of the reduction in admissions for children, or for any others, the 20 per cent tax is fixed on the established adult price of the theatre, and must so be paid. And exhibitors are reluctant to pay an adult tax on a junior admission.

Boys and girls here, as elsewhere, have long been in revolt against paying adult admissions, but exhibitors

(*Continued on page 7*)

Hargrave Mentioned For High U.S. Post

ROCHESTER, N. Y., June 17.—Thomas J. Hargrave, president of Eastman Kodak, is expected to be named by President Truman as executive chairman of the Army and Navy Munitions Board, according to word received here from Washington.

If named to the vital national defense job, set up after the war, he will succeed Richard R. Deupree, president of Procter and Gamble, whose resignation was forecast in Washington in March. It was reported that Hargrave had been urged to take the post by Secretary of War Patterson, a

(*Continued on page 6*)

Hoblitzelle Cites New Theatres Need

GALVESTON, June 17.—The need for new suburban theatres to meet the requirements of increased populations in the Southwest was stressed by Karl Hoblitzelle, president of Interstate Circuit, at the opening session here

(*Continued on page 6*)

May Still Require Building Permit

Washington, June 17.—The House today passed by a 163 to 73 vote the conference version of the rent control bill, the bill ending all curbs on commercial construction with the single exception that the Office of the Housing Expediter can require a permit for amusement or recreational construction if he determines a building-material shortage exists or threatens.

Senate approval is expected on Thursday, and the bill should be at the White House by the weekend.

Many Join in Tax Proposal

While the American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America openly have made known that they have under consideration a joint stand on admission tax slashing, it was disclosed here yesterday that the views of prominent figures in other exhibitor organizations, solicited by ATA, will be incorporated in proposals to be forwarded to the Government.

Because of policy differences among various associations on other matters, regional and other theatre leaders, including some associated with Allied States units, presented their opinions in unofficial capacities.

ATA has assumed, apparently, the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Para. Stockholders Approve Profit Sharing by 22 to 1

Paramount president Barney Balaban, board chairman Adolph Zukor and all 14 other nominees were unanimously reelected directors of the company at the annual stockholders' meeting held here yesterday. Additionally, the stockholders approved by a 5,440,935 to 250,395 share vote—about 22 to 1—the management's proposal for organization of the Employees' Investment Co., with authorized capitalization of $4,000,000, in which some 45 key home office and studio executives will participate in a profit-sharing arrangement.

Other reelected directors were: vice-presidents Y. Frank Freeman, Leonard

(*Continued on page 8*)

B. & K., Distributors Sued for $675,000

CHICAGO, June 17.—Charles Golden's DeLuxe Theatre Corp. filed a $675,000 triple damage anti-trust action in Federal Court here today against Balaban and Katz, Paramount, Loew's, Radio-Keith-Orpheum, 20th Century-Fox, Warners, Columbia, Universal and United Artists.

Filed for Golden by A. Brussell, attorney, the papers cite damages of $200,000 covering the period from 1937, and request an injunction restraining the defendants from continuing with alleged illegal acts. Treble damages are asked, plus $75,000 for attorney's fees and court costs. The case has been assigned to Judge Shaw.

Theatre Gross On Increase, Balaban Says

Upward Trend Is Evident, He Tells Stockholders

Industry-wide talk of a "leveling off" in theatre grosses notwithstanding, Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, yesterday told the annual meeting of company stockholders that about 10 days ago receipts of the company's theatres commenced to increase. Whereas, he said, prior to the war the May-June seasonal drop in theatre business extended to the July 4 holiday, this year an unusual upward trend is in evidence. Paramount is affiliated with some 1,500 theatres in the U. S.



Barney Balaban

"During the month of April our business held up quite well," the Paramount president said, adding: "There was, however, a further de-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Mary Pickford in U.A. Conferences

Mary Pickford concluded a second day of conferences here yesterday with United Artists board members and company executives without further significant developments concerning new management for the company resulting.

Meanwhile, Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution, left for England by plane yesterday after-

(*Continued on page 7*)

"Brute Force"

[*Mark Hellinger Prod.-Universal*] — It's Perfectly Titled

NO FILM could have a more appropriate description. "Brute Force" is one of the best prison films ever made and will be viewed by some as the most powerful, not excepting "The Big House." But this has to be set down immediately:

It is not for the squeamish nor for the weak-stomached. Mark Hellinger's film is tough and rough. It is also physically brutal, and to a degree which is open to questions of judgment and desirability.

Exhibition-wise, this attraction inevitably becomes one for showmen to weigh. There will be many situations where a film of this type will prove exactly the ticket for important money. Chiefly, this looks like downtown runs in big cities where audiences are more sophisticated and even then it is a matter of type of theatre. For example, "Brute Force" has no place at Radio City Music Hall here in New York under its policy, but has a decided spot at the Criterion, which is where it will play.

Theatremen, however, ought to know that if it is the raw-boned and the hard-hitting they are after, they do not have to scratch around any further. This picture is forcefully directed by Jules Dassin, from a story

(*Continued on page 8*)

6 Reviews Today

In addition to "Brute Force" on this page, reviewed today are: "The Upturned Glass" and "Saddle Pals," page 4; and "News Hounds," "Under the Tonto Rim" and "Web of Danger" on page 6.

Key city gross reports are on page 7.

Services Today for Peppiatt and Gross

PHILADELPHIA, June 17.—Attended by a number of persons from the industry, funeral services will be held here tomorrow for C. E. Peppiatt and Sam Gross, 20th Century-Fox sales executives who died in the plane crash last Friday night in West Virginia.

Honorary pallbearers at both funerals will include Spyros P. Skouras, W. C. Michel, Murray Silverstone, Joseph Moskowitz, Donald Henderson, W. J. Eadie, William J. Kupper, Otto Koegel, John F. Caskey, Dan Michalove, Andrew W. Smith Jr., William C. Gehring, Charles Schlaifer, Edmunk Reek, Martin Moskowitz, Ray Moon, Clarence Hill, Peter Levathes, Sam Shain, Frank Carroll, Alan Freedman, Harold Seidenberg, Roger Ferri, Herman Wobber, Herbert Gillis, Glenn Norris, Weldon Waters, James J. Grady, I. J. Schmertz, Leavitt J. Bugie, George T. Landis, Tony Muto, Tom J. Connors, Seymour Florin, Nat Rosen, Howard Smith, Mike Weiss, William Solomon, Ben Tolmas, John Nolan, Robert Lynch, Jack Beresin, William Goldman, Jay Emanuel, Earl Sweigert, Ted Schlanger, Jim Clark, Sidney Samuelson, Lewen Pizor and the Hon. Frank C. Walker.

Additional honorary pallbearers for Gross will be: Charles Zagrans, Harry Blumberg, Frank Hammerman, Bernard Stouman, A. R. Boyd, Louis Goldsmith, Frank Buhler and William Clark. For Peppiatt: Jack Greenberg, Alfred J. Davis, Morton Thalheimer, Sidney Lust, Abe Lichtman, Nathan D. Golden, William T. Saxton, Tom Goldberg, Lester Wurtele, John Payette, George Crouch, S. H. Durkee and Ben Fertel.

Active pallbearers for Gross include: Alfred J. Davis, Mike Felt, Ray Schwartz, Sam Sheekman, William Cohen and William Wolfe. Peppiatt's burial will be in Atlanta.

The 20th Century-Fox home office group, including Paul Terry and William Kupper, Jr., will leave tomorrow morning for Philadelphia, headed by Skouras. Shain has been in Philadelphia assisting the deceased's families.

Lawrence Silent on Report of SRO Post

Laudy Lawrence declined to confirm or deny reports that he is slated to join the Selznick Releasing Organization in an advisory capacity on foreign distribution when questioned yesterday.

"I would prefer that you get that information from the company," Lawrence said.

SRO officials here said they are not fully informed on the subject.

In Paralysis Drive Post

Judge John T. Cullinan of the Court of Common Pleas, Bridgeport, has been appointed Connecticut chairman of the 1948 March of Dimes drive by Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Personal Mention

MESSMORE KENDALL, president of the Capitol Theatre here, and author of "Never Let Weather Interfere," has been given a degree of Doctor of Letters by Tufts College, Medford, Mass.

•

HUBERT MCNALLY, RKO Radio manager for Ireland, who arrived here Friday, will leave today for Hollywood. He will return to New York for the company's annual sales meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria July 7-9.

•

HARRY M. KALMINE, president and general manager of Warner Theatres, and JACK L. WARNER, JR., who has been studying the company's theatre operations, visited Pittsburgh to look over the local situation. KALMINE returned to New York yesterday.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division sales manager for Warner Brothers, and SAM LEFKOWITZ, Eastern district manager, are visiting Albany and Gloversville, returning to New York tomorrow.

•

HERB COPELAN, recently placed in charge of Warner Brothers theatres in the Latin-American territory, has returned here from a three-week trip to South America.

•

JOE FRIEDMAN and GERRY MICHAELS of the Warner Brothers home office publicity department, who were married last weekend, will honeymoon in Maine for the next two weeks.

•

ROBERT M. GILLHAM, Eastern director of advertising-publicity for Selznick Releasing Organization, has taken a summer house at East Hampton, L. I.

•

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, has arrived in Dallas from New York.

•

HARRY KAPLOWITZ, Warner Theatres executive, is the father of a seven and a half pound boy, born Saturday in Beth-El Hospital, Brooklyn.

•

NORMAN AYERS, Southern division sales manager for Warner Brothers, is visiting Dallas, New Orleans, Jacksonville and Atlanta.

•

M. L. SIMONS, editor of M-G-M's *The Distributor*, and assistant to H. M. Richey, left here yesterday for Galveston, Tex.

•

JAMES POLING, head of Universal-International's New York story department, has returned here from Hollywood.

•

MAX YOUNGSTEIN, Eagle-Lion advertising publicity director, has returned here from St. Louis.

•

RUDOLPH WEISS, head of the Warner Theatres real estate department, returned yesterday from Cleveland.

•

ROBERT DOUGLAS, British film actor, is here from England.

SAMUEL WHEELER, Film Classics' sales manager, is on a trip to the Southwest.

•

JOEL BEZAHLER, M-G-M home office assistant to mid-Western sales manager BURTUS BISHOP, JR., and JAY EISENBERG of the company's legal staff, left here yesterday for Chicago.

•

CHARLES LAPWORTH, Loew's International studio public relations representative, has returned to New York from England and will entrain for the Coast Friday.

•

MILTON YASSENOFF, who is associated with his father, LEO, in the operation of the Academy Theatres in Columbus, O., and his wife are parents of a daughter.

•

MRS. KATHLEEN FINNEGAN has become assistant manager of the Court Square Theatre, Springfield, Mass., succeeding her late husband, GERALD E. FINNEGAN.

•

JULES K. CHAPMAN, assistant sales manager for Film Classics, is en route to Indianapolis to install GEORGE LEFKO as branch manager there.

•

WILLIAM TUOMEY of the publicity staff of the J. Arthur Rank Organization here, will leave for Hollywood Friday.

•

BUDD SCHULBERG is in New York to write the script based on his novel, "The Harder They Fall," for RKO Radio.

•

F. W. TIMS, managing director of J. Frank Brockliss, Ltd., distributor for National Theatre Supply Co., is here from London.

•

CECIL BARKER, executive assistant to DAVID O. SELZNICK, has arrived here from California.

•

BRYON J. ELLERBROOK, in charge of M-G-M's retirement plan at the studio, has arrived here from the Coast.

•

LEW BARASCH, trade paper liaison for United Artists, was injured last weekend while dancing at his home.

•

WILLIAM ORNSTEIN, M-G-M trade paper contact, is back after 12 days at the studios.

•

E. J. MANNIX, M-G-M executive, has returned to the Coast after a visit here.

•

THOMAS MCANDREWS, Republic salesman, has been transferred to New Haven from the New York exchange.

•

JAMES V. O'GARA, Republic Eastern division manager, is visiting the Albany and Boston branches.

•

A. E. V. ANDREWS, managing director of Andick Films, Ltd., London, is here from the Coast.

•

MAURICE DRUKER, Loew's State manager in Cleveland, and MRS. DRUKER, are on vacation in Miami.

Newsreel Parade

THE tragic air disasters head items in current newsreels. Other events covered are King George being hailed on his birthday, a winged Noah's Ark arriving here with a cargo of animals, and the U. S. open golf championship. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 84—Air disasters take a fearful toll of lives. Hungarian ex-premier arrives in the United States. Gate of Canadian waters opened. Epileptic ritual in Luxemburg. King George and Princess Elizabeth saluted by Grenadier Guards. Press photographers choose beauty queen in Atlantic City. United States open golf championship. Tuna derby in Bahamas.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 282—Pre-war pomp revived as Britishers hail King's birthday. Fleeing Hungarian premier finds refuge in U. S. Death again rides the nation's sky lanes. Noah's Ark takes wings: 300 beasts arrive in California from Siam. Choose "Miss National Press Photographer of 1947." Epileptic dance fete in Luxemburg. Open flood-gates in Quebec. National open title at St. Louis. Rodeo at Livermore, Cal.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 85—Princess Elizabeth stars in Royal Parade. DC-4 airline crash. Stanton Griffis sails on mission to Poland. Bernard Baruch bust unveiled at war college. Hungarian ex-premier arrives in U. S. Flying Noah's Ark arrives with animals. Play-offs in the United States open.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 87—President Truman winds up Canadian tour. Fifty die in DC-4 crash. Hungary's ex-premier arrives in New York. "Trooping the Colors" for the King. Modern Noah's Ark flies. Circus at the Polo Grounds. Worsham wins national open golf tournament.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 68—Fifty die as DC-4 crashes. King George rides at head of "Trooping the Colors" ceremony. Deposed Hungarian premier arrives in U. S. to seek aid against the forces of Communism. Animals arrive in California from Siam on flying Noah's Ark. "Miss Press Photographer" selected at Atlantic City. Worsham wins open golf championship.

Lawrence Testifies at Korda Trial Here

Under cross examination by defendant counsel Louis Frohlich of Schwartz & Frohlich, Laudy Lawrence yesterday admitted that he is indirectly interested in a Holland company with which he had entered a distribution deal in behalf of Alexander Korda, defendant in Lawrence's breach of contract suit.

Testifying earlier in the day, Lawrence said he had rendered many services for Korda and that the latter permitted no explanation when he discharged Lawrence on the grounds of non-exclusive services. Lawrence said Korda knew he was engaged in other theatrical enterprises, and claimed the reasons set forth did not justify his dismissal.

Trial of the case will continue today in New York Supreme Court.

Foundation Chapter Completed in S. F.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 17.—Motion picture leaders here, under chairman Jerry Zigmond, have completed organization of a chapter of the Motion Picture Foundation.

The group, according to Zigmond, has already indicated through initial pledges that the Bay area will more than meet its share of the Foundation's $10,000,000 goal.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c



VACATION FROM GUNPLAY!

Imagine! M-G-M's "CYNTHIA" hasn't a gun or a gangster in it! Exhibitors tell us that while there's always room for those thriller-killer films their public is hungry for a change of pace in entertainment, at least *one* picture without murder and mayhem in it. "Oh, how we could clean up right now," showmen say, "with a picture in the Green Years manner!" That's "CYNTHIA"!

That's why everybody's saying "I fell in love with 'CYNTHIA'." Walter Winchell said it. So did Hedda Hopper, Louella Parsons, Jimmy Fidler, Earl Wilson, Louis Sobol and many others. "CYNTHIA" is the heart-beat of life. It's young love's first dream, first trouble, first ecstasy! And in it beautiful Elizabeth Taylor, the "National Velvet" girl, reaches maturity and stardom!

There's box-office money in "CYNTHIA". Wonderful tie-ups. Smart promotion. A profitable effort for your showmanship! And a picture your patrons will be grateful for!

★

M-G-M's "CYNTHIA"—ELIZABETH TAYLOR, George Murphy, S. Z. Sakall, Mary Astor with Gene Lockhart, Spring Byington, James Lydon, Scotty Beckett • A Robert Z. Leonard Production • Screen Play by Harold Buchman and Charles Kaufman • Based on a Play by Vina Delmar • Directed by ROBERT Z. LEONARD • Produced by EDWIN H. KNOPF • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

Spanish Studios in Production Spurt

By PEDRO GONZALES

MADRID, June 12. (By Airmail).—Production activity here now is considerable and cameras are rolling, or ready to roll, on a number of films. Several important pictures, including one in color, are in preparation.

Shooting now are Constellation Films' "Angustias," directed by Jose Antonio Nieves Conde; "La Gran Barrera," produced by Juan Homedes and directed by Antonio Sau; "Las Tinieblas Quedaron Atras," produced by Mario Roca; "El Tambor Del Brush," directed by Ignacio F. Iquino; "Dos Mujeres En La Niebla," directed bv Jose Maria Seoane; "Boton De Ancla," directed by Ramon Torrado and now being shot at the naval school of Marin, and Rafael Gil's "La Fe."

Films now in preparation include "Bailen," a color production directed by Edgar Neville; Arturo Ruiz Castillo's "Obsession," "La Duquesa Cayetana Y Goya," and "Magallanes Y Elcano," all for Horiconte Films; "Don Quijote," to be directed by Rafael Gil for producer Cifesa; Manual Castillo's "Dona Maria La Brava" and Ramon Barreiro's "Los Pazos de Ulloa."

Canadian Fans Aid Variety Project

TORONTO, June 17.—Twelve thousand fans, forming the largest crowd of the baseball season since opening day, turned out for the night game with Baltimore in Toronto last night, which was staged as a benefit for Toronto Tent No. 28 of Variety Clubs to raise money for the Variety Village.

This is the first big project of the branch headed by J. J. Fitzgibbons and will provide a vocational school for crippled children of Ontario. The entire proceeds of the game are being devoted to the program.

Pascal May Produce 2 G.B.Shaw Films Here

LONDON, June 17.—Cineguild will produce and David Lean will direct Paul Gallico's "Showgoose," scheduled to commence at Pinewood Studios next spring. Gabriel Pascal previously had arranged to produce, but now the J. Arthur Rank office announces that it understands Pascal will produce two George Bernard Shaw subjects in America, and thus will be unavailable.

Ekerman Flying Here

HOLLYWOOD, June 17.—I. A. Ekerman, representing Brazilian production and equipment interests, has left by plane for New York after spending two days here during which he discussed purchase of equipment for studios to be established in Brazil. He arrived here yesterday from San Francisco.

Reviews

"The Upturned Glass"

(J. Arthur Rank-General Film Distributors) *London, June 17*

RANK'S latest James Mason effort, "The Upturned Glass," directed by Lawrence Huntington, presents Mason more moodier and more magnificent than ever. The picture indubitably is destined for a bigger British gross than "The Seventh Veil," with film fans, both intelligent and uninformed alike, inevitably revelling in the astonishing variety of moods that come from the superb accomplishment of Mason's acting.

Mason, as a famous brain-surgeon, finds in his loneliness sole consolation in his work and in music, disdaining common human contacts. He performs a miraculous operation on a child's brain and falls in love with the child's mother, and she with him. But, both being unhappily married, they appreciate that the affair cannot decently continue. On the night of their parting, the mother jumps to death from a high window. Mason, setting out to discover why she jumped, finds that another woman drove her to her fate. Mason deliberately and coldly condemns the second woman to a similar death.

The film thereafter develops a mounting struggle in Mason's mind, under the impact of cunningly-devised exterior circumstances. The piteously relentless mental and spiritual struggle resolves in Mason throwing himself down a cliff to his death. Mason's sublime acting again proves him unassailable in his class. Pamela Kellino, Mason's wife, plays the part of the wicked lady. Rosamund John, the earlier victim, exhibits the precise shade of gentle understanding. Mason co-produced with Sydney Box.

Running time, 86 minutes. British adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

PETER BURNUP

"Saddle Pals"

(Republic)

PUT Gene Autry in front of the cameras and the Western fan knows there is certain to emerge a picture that fits snugly in its category. With Autry in this one are Lynne Roberts, Sterling Holloway, the Cass County Boys and the equine performer, Champion, Jr.

The screenplay, fashioned by Bob Williams and Jerry Sackheim, for the most part avoids the usual complications arising out of sagebrush skullduggery, and instead centers on a timely problem of crooked businessmen trying to increase the rent of the ranchers. Actually the land company is owned by Holloway, but he is too much of a fear-ridden hypochondriac to see beyond his own ailments. To escape it all, Holloway turns his property over to Autry, who after having to take some high hurdles, succeeds in cracking down on the gang trying to fleece the ranchers.

The film has its quota of laughs, galloping hoofs and flying fists. Among the tunes that add to the film's easygoing mood are "You Stole My Heart," "I Wish I had Never Met Sunshine," "Amapola," "Which Way Did They Go," "The Covered Wagon Rolled Right Along." Lesley Selander directed, and Sidney Picker was associate producer.

Running time, 72 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, June 15.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

German Film Talks Slated for Saturday

WASHINGTON, June 17. — The film industry-War Department conference on the rehabilitation of the German film business is "tentatively" scheduled for Saturday morning, here, the Office of Assistant Secretary of War Howard Petersen said today.

Industry representatives expected to attend are Eric Johnston and Francis Harmon, president and vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, respectively.

In addition to Petersen, War Department representatives will be Henry Carlton, chief of the films and theatre section of the reorientation branch of the civil affairs division, and Charles Mertz, his assistant.

Johnston will arrive in Washington Friday.

Nathanson's Suit Is Continued to June 23

TORONTO, June 17.—Hearing of an appeal by three defendants from a previous order here in the court action by Paul L. Nathanson's film companies against J. Arthur Rank and affiliates will continue some time after June 23, after consultation with Justice Genest, presiding judge.

The hearing will be still another step in the suit by Empire-Universal Films and United World Pictures of Canada, both of Toronto, in which they claim diversion of distribution rights in Canada to Rank companies on certain unnamed pictures.

Applicants in the appeal are: J. Arthur Rank Organization, Inc., and Eagle-Lion Films, both of the U. S., and General Cinema Finance Corp. of England. The appeal was from an order which allowed service of original writs outside Ontario against the defendants, although restricting the trial to Toronto.

MPEA Has 5 Films For German Release

Washington, June 17.—The Motion Picture Export Association now has five documentary films ready for release in Germany, the War Department reported today. They are "Brazil Today," "Great Lakes," "Power Unlimited," "Port of New York" and "Northern Rampart."

The films will be avail... for distribution in theatres in the U. S.-occupied zone.

Pope Pius in Film Plea for Peace

ROME, June 17.—A world appeal fo peace will be made by Pope Pius XI as the climax of a film, "War Agains War," being completed by the Catholi Cinematograph Center here.

The Pope's screen address will b recorded in English, Italian, French Spanish, Portuguese and Latin. Eac will require the Pontiff's presence be fore the cameras for about one hou and each will be shot twice.

The picture will be a documentary, utilizing largely footage depicting ruins and suffering visited by the last war and the portent of the atom bomb in future wars. The Pope's message in behalf of peace and in condemnation of those who would bring war again will provide the final sequence of the picture.

Disclaims Right to Halt Red Spy Film

OTTAWA, June 17.—The Canadian government had no right to interfere with the making of a motion picture on the Russian spy revelations in Ottawa, it was stated in Parliament by L. S. St.-Laurent, Minister of External Affairs, in reply to questions by opposition members relative to the propriety of making a film on an espionage report by Igor Gouzenko, former employe of the Soviet embassy here.

The matter came before the House of Commons after representatives of 20th Century-Fox came to Ottawa for background material, Gouzenko having sold the film rights to his story to that company. In reply to further questions St.-Laurent said he knew of no requests from the producer for permission to take pictures inside government buildings.

King, Queen at Benefit

LONDON, June 17.—Britain's King and Queen have consented to attend the second Royal Command performance staged by the Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund, set for next Nov. 25 at the Odeon Theatre in Leicester Square.

VARIETY GIRL IS LOVE STO

13 in Construction In Mexico City

Mexico City, June 17. — Thirteen new theatres are under construction in Mexico City. Of these, four will open this year and the rest before the summer of 1948, bringing to 100 the number of theatres which will be operating in this city of 2,000,000 people.

Await Reaction on Walsh-O'Brien Plan

LONDON, June 17.—Tom O'Brien, general secretary of the NATKE trade union, here, who is back in London following New York conferences with Richard Walsh, president of the IATSE, is endeavoring to arrange an all-trade luncheon to welcome Walsh. Arrangements, it is understood, depend on the reaction of the Trades Union Congress to the revolutionary joint proposal of O'Brien and Walsh to form an international trade union congress for the film business.

O'Brien became seriously ill while en route home aboard the *S.S. Queen Elizabeth,* but has now recovered. He was accompanied on the voyage by Walsh.

RKO Radio and Rank To Film 'Ivanhoe'

"Ivanhoe" will be filmed in Technicolor next summer in England by RKO Radio in conjunction with J. Arthur Rank, Dore Schary, vice president in charge of production, announced.

The multi-million dollar production will stem from "The Black Knight," a free adaptation of the Sir Walter Scott classic by Aeneas Mackenzie, which RKO Radio has purchased from Paramount. A combined English and American all-star cast will be assembled for the major roles.

"Ivanhoe" is the second joint RKO Radio-Rank effort. Now nearing release is "So Well Remembered," filmed in England last summer with an Anglo-American cast.

Pathe To Distribute 'Duel' in England

Pathe, British film distributing organization, will handle David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" in England, it was announced here yesterday by Neil Agnew, president of Selznick Releasing Organization.

Deal calls for exhibition of "Duel" on the ABC Theatres circuit, with which Pathe has connections. Available also for showing of the film are approximately 75 summer resort situations, important source of British film revenue at this time of the year, SRO said.

Rank Post Reunites Borkin and Benjamin

WASHINGTON, June 17.—The recent appointment of Joseph Borkin as economic consultant for the J. Arthur Rank Organization here continues a working team, for Borkin's chief job will be to work with—and be economic troubleshooter for—Robert Benjamin, president of the Organization. Borkin and Benjamin have been working together for some time now on behalf of Robert R. Young — Benjamin as chief counsel, and Borkin as chief economic adviser for Young's motion picture interests.



Joseph Borkin

An expert on the international situation, patents, and motion picture law, Borkin admits that he is not very clear yet himself as to what specific jobs he will have to undertake. "I'll just be around," he says, "to help out on any problems that they feel I can be helpful on."

Nothing has come up yet, he adds.

Borkin's contacts with the motion picture industry go back quite some way. From 1935 to 1938 he directed the patent phase of the Federal Communication Commission's investigation into the telephone industry, and was also in charge of investigating AT and T's motion picture interests. He prepared the sections of the final FCC report dealing with Western Electric and ERPI.

After his FCC service, Borkin spent eight years as economic adviser to the Department of Justice's anti-trust division, specializing in patent cartels. He opened his own firm in 1946. Decca Records is another of his clients.

Borkin is the author of two books. One, "Germany's Master Plan," traced German penetration of American industry. The other, "Television, a Struggle for Power," is a history of television, but also includes much motion picture history.

The new Rank aide is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin and of NYU, where he was an economics instructor for a brief period. He received a law degree in 1945 from the National University in Washington.

Columbia, Book Firms Give Fiction Prizes

Six fiction fellowships of $1,000 each, in lieu of an outright award, have been granted in the United Services Book Contest jointly sponsored by Columbia Pictures Corp., Thomas Y. Crowell Co., and George G. Harrap & Co., Ltd., of London.

The winners of the followships, their nationalities, and the titles of their novels are: Rowland Barber, American, "John 29"; Raibeart Elder, British, "The Cruel Land"; David A. Evans, British, "Valley of Sound"; Everard Johnson, British, "The Squadron"; William Howard Jones, British, "Three Signs and a Hangover," and F. A. Nauheim, American, "Behold the Upright."

Judges in the contest were Robert L. Crowell, president, and Marian MacLeod of Thomas Y. Crowell Co., Joseph Gaute of Harrap, and Janet Wood of the New York office and Michael Storm of the London office of Columbia Pictures.

Valentino Film Abroad

Production on "The Life of Rudolph Valentino" will start on July 9 in Italy, it is announced by Edward Small, producer of the film, which is to be released by United Artists. A camera crew will sail from New York for Rome at the end of June. From Italy the camera crew will go to Paris and London for additional shots.

Exhibitors to Judge Somerset Scripts

Hollywood June 17.—An exhibitor board of judges, to pass on all future film scripts for Somerset Pictures, is being set up by the company.

Twelve veteran theatre owners and managers, selected from all classes of houses throughout the country, will comprise the panel.

Cal. Court Denies Wage Law Appeal

LOS ANGELES, June 17.—The Los Angeles Supreme Court yesterday decided against an appeal of the 65 cents-minimum wage law which went into effect on June 1. Certain industries, including theatres, had protested the act before the Appellate Court and, upon denial of an appeal by that body, carried it to the Supreme Court.

Small Joins Father's Co.

Bernard Small, son of Edward Small, has joined Edward Small Productions as an associate producer and general assistant to his father, it was announced here yesterday. His first assignment is "Cagliostro," which will be made at Churusbusco Studios in Mexico City with Gregory Ratoff directing.

100 Attend Albany Variety Tournament

ALBANY, N. Y., June 17.—One hundred participated yesterday in the annual golf tournament of the local Variety Club at the Colonie Country Club. Dinner followed.

Henry Blatner, theatre architect, won the low gross; Ralph Ripps, M-G-M salesman, was runner up, and Irwin Ullman, son of Saul Ullman, general upstate manager of Fabian, won the first driving contest. Fifty prizes were awarded. Schine, Warner, Fabian, Kallett, Smalley, Upstate Theatres and Benton were among donors. Others present were: Walter Reade, Jr., Jack Harris, Reade Theatres; Jack Ogara, Republic division manager; Frank Dervin, Republic district manager; Tom Duane, Boston representative of Selznick Releasing; Lou Goldstein, Schine; George Giroux, Technicolor; Al Herman, Eagle-Lion-PRC district manager. Supreme Court Justice Isadore Bookstein was the guest of Arthur Newman, Republic manager and chairman.

Albany Variety Benefit

ALBANY, N. Y., June 17.—William McCraw, executive secretary of National Variety Clubs, will visit Albany July 21 in connection with the premiere of "Variety Girl" here in August for the benefit of local Tent No. 9, chief barker Neil Hellman announces.

Rosenfeld Is Named Lou Bunin Prod. V-P

Paul Rosenfeld, former head of Fox West Coast's legal department, has resigned to become vice-president of Lou Bunin Prod., it was announced here yesterday.

Rosenfeld will leave for Paris late this month to assist in negotiations for worldwide distribution of the Bunin color production of "Alice in Wonderland," a combination of cartoons and live action to be made there. In all, about 50 writers, artists and technicians and their families will go to Paris before the end of the month for work on the production. Leaving here today by plane, as the first of the group to depart, will be Ben Rubin, production manager, and George Thomas, press representative.

Para. Branch Talks Begin for 1947 Drive

Details of the Paramount 1947 sales drive, "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership," which will start on Aug. 31, are being whipped into final shape at branch meetings, beginning in Dallas. Harold Wirthwein, captain of the 13-week campaign and assistant West Coast district manager, is at the Dallas branch, first stop in a tour which will take him to all of the company's branches by Aug. 28.

Conn. Variety Club Meets

HARTFORD, June 17.—Variety Club of Connecticut will hold a luncheon-meeting on Thursday at Seven Gables Towne House, New Haven.



Favors Change in Buffalo Ordinance

BUFFALO, N. Y., June 17.—Modification of the ordinance governing the location of ventilators in storage place for films was recommended here today by Elwin G. Speyer, commissioner of public works, to the city council's legislative committee. The proposal was first advanced by G. Morton Wolfe, president of the Buffalo-Western New York chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

Asserting that the present requirement that the outlet of each vent be placed no closer than 50 feet to doors, windows and other openings in buildings is "not practical," Speyer cited a Los Angeles ordinance that sets the distance at 25 feet. He also pointed out that a proposed New York State law considers 25 feet a safe distance.

Accepts Applications For Video Relays

WASHINGTON, June 17.—Applications for construction permits for two new experimental television relay broadcasting stations have been accepted for filing by the Federal Communications Commission. One was filed by the Crosley Broadcasting Corp. for the areas of Cincinnati, Dayton and Columbus, and another by Havens and Martin, Inc., Richmond, Va.

The Commission also announced that the application of National Broadcasting for a license for a new experimental television relay station in this area has also been accepted for filing.

Personnel Changes In Field by F-C

Personnel changes in the distribution department of Film Classics were announced here yesterday by Samuel Wheeler, sales manager. They include: Louis Bernhard, booker, from St. Louis to New Haven, as salesman; Stephen Justus, appointed salesman for St. Louis under branch manager Sol Hankin; George Lefko, formerly with RKO Radio, Warner Brothers and Eagle-Lion, appointed branch manager for Indianapolis, and Ralph Peckham, former F-C branch manager for Indianapolis, now on a roving assignment.

New Seating Firm

Air-O Seating Corp. has been formed, with Peter F. Masucci as president, to manufacture and distribute a new-type auditorium chair. Headquarters of the company are in New York City, but manufacturing will be done in Minneapolis. Masucci states that production will begin July 1.

Reviews

"News Hounds"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, June 17

IMPROVEMENT in story value, even though its broad comedy becomes slapsticky at times, together with skilled direction, makes this the best Bowery Boys film to date. Its higher caliber should boost patronage for the Jan Grippo series even over past returns.

Leo Gorcey, as a copyboy in a newspaper office, who has a desire to become a reporter, leads the Bowery Boys, as usual, in action and performance. However, Huntz Hall, as a clownish amateur photographer, runs him a very close second for acting honors.

The plot hits on high when Gorcey and gang start out to expose some fight-fixing gamblers. Hall and his 98-cent camera get the pictorial evidence on the Mr. Big, the fixer, only to lose camera, films and all just as Gorcey's story of the expose is headlined in the paper. Result is a $4,000,000 libel suit that is nearly slapped on the publisher before the camera and film are finally recovered.

Gorcey gets top support from such other former Dead End pals of stage and screen as Bobby Jordan, Gabriel Dell, Billy Benedict and David Gorcey. Others contributing able bits to the picture's quality are Christine McIntyre, Anthony Caruso, Ralph Dunn, Bill Kennedy and Robert Emmet Keane.

Veteran William Beaudine's direction helps rank this one at the top of the Bowery Boys' series. Screenplay by Edmund Seward and Tim Ryan is from an original story by them and George Cappy.

Running time, 68 minutes. General audience classification.

W. J. McG.

"Under the Tonto Rim"

(RKO Radio)

HERE'S a rough and tumble show with action galore, deviating little from the standard pattern, but staged with a good deal of effectiveness.

Tim Holt has the lead in the adaptation of a Zane Grey novel which gives outlawry, in the form of an army of bandits, the upper hand until that last sequence. Holt as operator of a stage coach line soon finds himself a victim of the culprits. He and his partner, Richard Martin, set out to avenge an attack. They are successful, of course, but it's a tough battle all the way.

Nan Leslie has the top female part as captive of the gang leader, Richard Powers. Carol Forman, Tony Barrett, Harry Harvey are in support. Norman Houston's screenplay was directed by Lew Landers, produced by Herman Schlom.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

GENE ARNEEL

"Web of Danger"

(Republic)

A COMMODITY for the action market, "Web of Danger" is sporadically successful in whipping up excitement with a yarn about a bridge-building crew bent on completing a job before flood waters reach the marooned populace of the valley.

Adele Mara, Bill Kennedy and Damian O'Flynn form a romantic triangle which alternately shares the spotlight with the desperate efforts to get the bridge together.

The cast performs well enough despite some situations quite beyond the realm of plausibility. Richard Loo, Victor Sen Yung, Roy Barcroft, William Hall and J. Farrell MacDonald have supporting roles. Philip Ford directed and Donald H. Brown was associate producer. David Lang and Milton M. Raison contributed the original screen play.

Running time, 58 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, June 10.

G. A.

'Gold' Opens in July

World premiere of Allied Artists' "Black Gold" has been set for Louisville, during the latter part of July. The picture, filmed in Cinecolor and produced by Jeffrey Bernerd, is the second to be released by the new Allied Artists.

Hargrave Mentioned

(*Continued from page* 1)

close friend. Hargrave was unavailable for comment here.

As chairman of the Munitions Board Hargrave would be responsible for planning industrial mobilization in case of emergencies in a world geared to the use of atomic weapons and jet propulsion, direction of raw materials and machine tool procurement and organization of manpower for manufacturing.

Cancel 'Amber' Ceremony

Ceremonies for the lighting of 20th Century-Fox's giant Broadway sign for "Forever Amber" were cancelled because of the illness of Linda Darnell in Geneva, Switzerland. She had been scheduled to speak over Transatlantic radio-telephone, setting up an electrical impulse that would activate the display.

Plan New Addition For Bell & Howell

CHICAGO, June 17.—Plans are being drawn for a second large addition to the plant of the Bell and Howell company, manufacturer of motion picture equipment, at Lincolnwood. It will contain 100,000 square feet, said J. H. McNabb, president, who announced the acquisition of the last 20 acres of a total of 67 acres for the big plant and its additions.

The main plant building, containing 240,000 square feet, was built by the government during the war and leased to Bell and Howell. Purchased last year for $2,500,000, a one-story addition was connected for an approximate $700,000. The proposed second addition is to adjoin the first.

2-Million on 'Thumb' As First for Pal-UA

HOLLYWOOD, June 17.—Following completion of a deal for United Artists release of his cartoon-live action Technicolor features, George Pal has budgeted "Tom Thumb" first, at $2,000,000, and signed Woody Herman and Peggy Lee as first members of a cast in which it is planned to include top star names. The picture is intended for late 1948 release.

Hoblitzelle

(*Continued from page* 1)

today of Interstate's first postwar convention.

Hoblitzelle also reminded his listeners of the showman's obligation to make entertainment available to all communities. He urged a return to show business with efficient, economic management and operation.

With 192 managers and assistants in attendance, the convention was opened by R. J. O'Donnell, general manager of Interstate. He praised the men for their service during the war and thanked those who remained at home for doing good jobs despite curtailed help and shortages of materials.

Construction engineers and insurance department heads also spoke at today's session. The convention will run for four days with many show business notables scheduled to attend later sessions.

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Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

PHILADELPHIA

VOL The Best Years of Our Lives," in its 11th week at the Arcadia is holding up splendidly. Also pulling strongly is "The Yearling," in its fourth week at the Karlton, and "The Farmer's Daughter," in its second week on a second run at Keith's. New bookings, "Great Expectations," "Cheyenne" and "Copacabana," are doing fair business. In general, however, business is somewhat below average. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 17-19:

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ARCADIA (900) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 11th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average of regular prices of 50c-94c: $6,600)

CHEYENNE (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $28,700. (Average: $29,500)

COPACABANA (UA) — STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $24,500. (Average: $27,000)

DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE (RKO Radio)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days. On stage, Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis. Gross: $18,500.

DUEL IN THE SUN (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 3rd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-94c, $25,000)

FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week, 2nd run. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $6,200)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) -- BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $21,600. (Average: $21,000)

GUILT OF JANET AMES (Col.)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $13,800)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M) — GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $24,000)

SEA HAWK and SEA WOLF (WB reissues)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $12,700)

YEARLING (M-G-M)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $9,500)

INDIANAPOLIS

New pictures are showing only modest returns here again this week. Rain and cold as well as the sluggishness of business in general have been deterrent factors. "That's My Man," at the Lyric, "High Barbaree, at Loew's, and "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," at the Indiana are box office leaders. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 17-18:

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.) — LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-50c) Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,800)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th - Fox) — KEITH'S ((1,300) (40c-60c) On a moveover from the Indiana. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,500)

LOVE AND LEARN (WB) and DECOY (Mono.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c) Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)

THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.) and CALENDAR GIRL (Rep.) — LYRIC (1,800) (40c-60c) Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,700)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) and WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c) Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,300)

BOSTON

Unseasonal weather with the first fair weekend in a month caused heavy dips in grosses at all Hub houses. The largest major business promised for the week was scheduled on a charity-sponsored basis with "Discovery" at the Center as a $3.60 per seat benefit for the Massachusetts General Hospital Nurses' Fund and "Carnegie Hall" which opened yesterday at the Esquire as a $10 per seat benefit for Boston College High School. Estimated grosses for the week ending June 18:

BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I) and MICHIGAN KID (U-I) — BOSTON (2,900) (40c-80c) Gross: $19,000. (Average: $31,000)

DISCOVERY (Discovery Films) and VACATION DAYS (Mono.)—CENTER (1,388) (40c-74c) Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,500)

HONEYMOON (RKO Radio) and BRASHER DOUBLOON (20th-Fox)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c) Gross: $20,000. (Average: $27,200)

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (20th-Fox) and PHILO VANCE RETURNS (PRC) — METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c) Gross: $26,500. (Average: $26,000)

MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox) and SPORT OF KINGS (Col.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c) Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,500)

MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox) and SPORT OF KINGS (Col.) — PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c) Gross: $12,000. (Average: $14,900)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c) Gross: $25,000. (Average: $20,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M) — STATE (2,900) (35c-80c) Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

BUFFALO

"Standing Room Only" signs were brushed off after months of gathering dust and hung out at the Hippodrome where "Duel in the Sun" started. The rest of the grosses were about even or below. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 19:

CALCUTTA (Para.)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 3rd week on a moveover. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $6,000

CHEYENNE (WB) — GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.) and FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c - 50c - 60c - 70c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $33,000. (Average at regular prices of 40c-50c-60c-70c: $10,000)

HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox) and VIOLENCE (Mono.)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $19,000)

HONEYMOON (RKO-Radio) and THE DEVIL ON WHEELS (PRC)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,200. (Average: $16,000)

U. A. Conferences

(*Continued from page* 1)

noon on what is believed to be a decisive mission to obtain increased playing time for the company's product there. It was intimated that Sears will discuss the problem with John Davis, J. Arthur Rank's right-hand man, and if an agreement is not reached efforts will be made at once to conclude deals apart from Rank's Odeon and Gaumont circuits.

George Ornstein, Sears' assistant, accompanied him on the trip.

It was reported that management discussions did not enter into Miss Pickford's initial meetings here on Monday but they are believed to have been the subject of her conferences yesterday with her attorney, Arnold Grant, and board member Vitalis Chalif. It was also reported that Miss Pickford will meet with Tom J. Connors, who has already conferred with Grant, Charles Schwartz and Arthur W. Kelly, the latter two Charles Chaplin's representatives, on the subject of the U. A. presidency.

4th 'World Premiere' for MGM's 'GWTW'

M-G-M's "Gone with the Wind" will have its fourth "world premiere" at Loew's Grand in Atlanta on June 25. The first time the picture opened at the Atlanta house was on Dec. 16, 1939, when it ran for 68 days on a reserved seat two-a-day policy. The second at the Grand took place on Dec. 13, 1940, and the third premiere was held on April 30, 1942 and the latest opening will be for an indefinite run, without reserved seats.

Tax Proposal

(*Continued from page* 1)

principal role in the program to reduce taxation by way of expressing a unified exhibitor stand. The Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association and the Independent Theatre Owners Association also have contributed their ideas on proposals of ways and means of tax reduction.

A cross-section of opinion still shows the majority in favor of elimination of taxes on children's tickets priced at 20 cents and under and only a 10 per cent levy on other admissions.

A final draft of proposals is expected to be made by ATA this week for presentation to the House Ways and Means Committee in Washington.

Reorganize N.O. Club

NEW ORLEANS, June 17. — George Pabst has been elected president of the old Filmrow Social Club, which has been reorganized and which will get a new name. Others elected are Milton Guidry, vice-president; Connie Black, secretary, and Evelyn Roser, treasurer.

Chicago's Mayor for Three Per Cent Tax

CHICAGO, June 17.—Mayor Martin Kennelly does not favor the proposed five per cent tax on admissions as proposed by his committee of 32 business, civic and labor leaders. He said he considers five per cent too much and thinks it should be reduced to three.

Meanwhile, opposition to the admission tax is being strongly felt by aldermen through letters and telephone calls.

Junior Prices

(*Continued from page* 1)

still find themselves in the peculiar position of being forced to pay the Government a tax which they cannot collect, "and so the matter of establishing junior admissions is now out of our hands," the exhibitor spokesman declared.

Ben Berger, president of North Central Allied, is understood to have had his organization recommend to national Allied's tax committee that it ask the Government to re-examine Federal tax rulings as they apply to film theatres, especially on the grounds that the ticket tax exacted should be on actual revenue and not on age, as under the present ruling.

The Internal Revenue Bureau in Washington has received many requests from circuits and individual exhibitors for a change in its interpretation of the law to permit the levying of an admission tax in keeping with prices charged.

Minnesota Amusement Co., Paramount affiliate in the Northwest, and RKO, here, will, on Thursday, establish junior admissions, as previously reported, but independents in the Twin Cities will mark time for a while before taking any action, if they act at all. It was pointed out that an exhibitor with a regular adult admission price of, say, 40 cents, would have to pay the identical amount of eight cents on a 25-cent junior admission as he would have to pay on the 40-cent adult price, leaving him a net of only 17 cents on the junior ticket.

The Officers and Directors of

Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation

Announce that due to the Deaths of

Cecil E. Peppiatt

and

Sam Gross

The Philadelphia Branch Office

will be closed today,

Wednesday, June 18th

Production on Coast Eases Off As 7 Finish

HOLLYWOOD, June 17.—The production index eased off from the year's record high of 51 to 45, as seven pictures were sent to cutting rooms and only one started shooting. The production scene:

Columbia

Finished: "The Last Round-Up" and "Prince of Thieves."

Shooting: "When a Girl's Beautiful," "Last Days of Boot Hill," "The Mating of Minnie McGonigle," "The Sea Hound," "I Love Trouble" (Cornell), "It Had To Be You" and "The Man from Colorado."

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: "Adventures of Casanova."

Enterprise

Shooting: "They Passed This Way."

M-G-M

Finished: "Alias a Gentleman."

Shooting: "Killer McCoy," "On an Island With You," "If Winter Comes," "Cass Timberlane," "The Kissing Bandit," "The Pirate."

Paramount

Finished: "Whispering Smith."

Shooting: "Big Town Scandal" (Pine-Thomas); "Dream Girl."

RKO Radio

Finished: "The Bishop's Wife."

Shooting: "Mourning Becomes Electra," "Return of the Bad Men," "I'll Remember Mama," "Memory of Love."

Republic

Started: "The Fabulous Texan," with William Elliott, John Carroll, Catherine McLeod, Andy Devine, Albert Dekker, Ruth Donnelly.

Finished: "Driftwood."

Shooting: "The Red Pony" (Feldman).

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Green Grass of Wyoming," "Roses Are Red," (Wurtzel), "Nightmare Alley," "Gentleman's Agreement," "Foxes of Harrow," "Off to Buffalo."

United Artists

Finished: "Intrigue."

Shooting: "Without Honor" (Hopalong Cassidy Productions), "The Time of Your Life" (Cagney), "Sleep My Love."

Universal-International

Shooting: "Tap Roots (Wanger-Marshall), "Imagination" (Kanin). "Adventures of Black Bart," "Wistful Widow of Wagon Gap," "The Exile," "Ride the Pink Horse."

Warners

Shooting: "Mary Hagen," "Romance in High C" (Curtiz), "Love at First Sight," "Ever the Beginning," "Silver River," "Treasure of Sierra Madre."

"Brute Force"

(*Continued from page* 1)

by Robert Patterson and a script by Richard Brooks. It has a first-class array of performances, headed by Burt Lancaster ("The Killers"), Hume Cronyn, Charles Bickford, Sam Levene, Howard Duff, Art Smith, Whit Dissell, Roman Bohnen and others. Among its familiar box-office names, additionally, are Ella Raines, Yvonne De Carlo and Ann Blyth, all three supplying second-level romantic threads, played in a reserved use of the flashback.

Aside from these flashbacks, which consume a minimum of footage, the entire action takes place in prison. Lancaster is in the jug because he stole to pay for Miss Blyth's fight against cancer. Dissell juggled books to buy Miss Raines a fur coat on the assumption this would keep their marriage together. Duff is behind bars because he took a murder rap for Miss De Carlo who shoots her own father in an effort to keep the military police off Duff's trail. Bickford runs the prison newspaper and is up for parole until discontent, largely fostered by Cronyn, captain of the guards who is after the warden's job, wipes out parole recommendations and all other privileges; then Bickford joins in the jail break. Smith is the prison doctor who seeks to ease his sense of outrage over treatment accorded the convicts by floundering in brandy. Levene is Bickford's assistant who is practically beaten to pulp by the calloused and merciless Cronyn.

Lancaster assumes leadership in the plan to shoot a way out of jail. But Cronyn unearths the plot and arranges not a capture but a massacre. All convicts seeking their illegal liberty are shot to death, including Lancaster, who first makes his way to the tower and succeeds in hurling Cronyn to the yard below where the mass of milling prisoners tears him to shreds.

Unfolding this type of story, "Brute Force" had to be forthright if it intended being anything at all. The treatment here is more than that, however. It is like shock troops smashing through to their objective regardless of what might be in their line of march. The result is anything but pretty, but its power impact is not to be denied. Jules Buck was associate producer.

Running time, 98 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

RED KANN

Theatre Gross Up

(*Continued from page* 1)

cline during May which continued into June. This decline had all the earmarks of the regular seasonal decline which we experienced during the pre-war years, but which we did not feel during the war years when our revenues came in at a relatively constant rate." Then, suddenly, about 10 days ago, Balaban said, an upward swing came.

"This upswing has not continued long enough for me to be certain that the May decline has spent itself," Balaban cautioned. He said the upswing "has not been reflected so far in our film rentals, but if the level of the past 10 days continues, it will show itself in film rentals for the next quarter." He added that, assuming that economic conditions generally do not take an adverse turn, "I believe we will have a good and satisfactory final six months in 1947."

To Continue Stock Purchases

Balaban said Paramount will continue to purchase shares of common stock of the corporation in the open market, and reported that from Nov. 20, 1946 through last Monday night a total of 355,600 shares has been acquired. Meanwhile, he said, the company is making arrangements for borrowing money on the basis of a revolving credit, "the corporation to pay a so-called standby charge and the money to be available to us if, and as, we need it over the next several years." He did not say what the amount of the revolving credit will be. He said that the arrangement "is in the nature of prudent preparation for the future." It is likely, he added, that the company will make loans under this credit, "but if we do make loans, we will make them to enable the corporation to acquire capital and other assets. In other words, if we did not face these unusual requirements we would not borrow money at all."

Final consummation of the contract under which Paramount will purchase all the outstanding common stock of Liberty Films from the stockholders of that company in exchange for common stock of Paramount, is still subject to certain legal questions, Balaban said. He described the arrangement of the deal to the stockholders, said he was "proud" that William Wyler, Frank Capra, George Stevens and Sam Briskin of Liberty have "joined fortunes with Paramount, and I am glad that they will become Paramount stockholders."

Stock as Bargaining Medium

Balaban said that similar discussions "with owners of other interests, with a view to their acquisition, indicate a desire for payment in Paramount stock." He said that "since our stock possesses such merit as a bargaining medium, we want to be in a position to use stock, without increasing the number of shares outstanding, as we would if we were to use stock from the authorized but unissued shares." The latter course, he explained, would result in an expansion of the capital structure of the company and a corresponding broadening of the participations in assets and earnings, and accordingly, the company is continuing to purchase its own shares on the open market.

Advertising income from company television broadcasting is developing "as expected" in Chicago and Hollywood where television subsidiaries are operating, Balaban said. He said a Chicago to South Bend, Ind., television relay set-up will be ready shortly.

'Lights and Shadows' Abroad

Balaban reviewed the company's foreign operations for the stockholders. He described the foreign business scene as generally "a mixture of lights and shadows." Poor economic conditions abroad are responsible for the "shadows," he explained, adding: "We have not made the progress we would like to have made in acquiring 'show cases' in major cities of the world for our product."

Para. Profit Sharing

(*Continued from page* 1)

H. Goldenson, Austin C. Keough and Charles M. Reagan, and, Stanton Griffis, E. V. Richards, Edwin L. Weisl, Stephen Calaghan, Harvey D. Gibson, A. Conger Goodyear, Duncan G. Harris, John D. Hertz, Earl I. McClintock and Maurice Newton. Directors will meet here either today or tomorrow to elect officers.

The major portion of the meeting was devoted to discussion of the Employees' Investment Co. five-year plan, under which key personnel will purchase the new company's stock at two-thirds of par value. Capitalization will consist of notes in the principal amount of $3,760,000 and 240,000 shares of common stock at one dollar par value. The 240,000 shares will be offered to top personnel, with priority to purchase up to 15,000 shares each to be accorded Freeman, Goldenson, Keough and Reagan. No other directors will participate. Henry Ginsberg, vice-president and general manager in charge of studio operations, would be given the right to purchase 24,000 shares.

Some Objections Raised

Some scattered stockholder objections were voiced to the investment plan, these including criticism of passage of stock to heirs upon death; a charge of alleged favoritism to executives while rank-and-file employes were excluded; questioning of the cost of the plan to stockholders, and a query as to its necessity.

Answering the objections, Balaban pointed out that a particular "incentive" point of the plan is to assure the participant that he will be able to leave the holdings to his family upon his death. Balaban added that the fact that the plan will run only for five years is adequate safeguard against fear that any measurable amount of stock would fall into hands of heirs, since those who would participate "are a pretty healthy bunch."

It would cost the company the prohibitive sum of $10,000,000 a year to establish a "pension plan" for each and every Paramount employe, Balaban said. "The company just could not afford that," he added. Disclosing that several corporations outside the industry have complimented Paramount on the plan, Balaban described the program as "the least costly and burdensome of all those we have studied."

To 'Hold' Key Personnel

"We are compelled to adopt the plan," Balaban said, "to keep our good manpower" which, he added, is paid less than are key executives of competitive companies. He said the salaries paid Paramount executives are hardly large after taxes are deducted, and that as a result, saving is out of the question for most of them. Hence, he said, the company must protect itself against tempting offers to these men from competitive companies. Balaban said it was obvious that all objections raised stemmed largely from unfamiliarity with details and advantages of the plan. For every stockholder who voiced objection to the plan at the meeting, another rose to applaud it.

Balaban said the company expects that the notes issued under the investment plan will be liquidated before the five years are concluded. At the end of five years, he added, a new plan along similar lines may be devised.

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British Will Take 40% Tax Fight to Public

Distributors Expected To Join Exhibitors

LONDON, June 18. — Exhibitors have opened a full-bent attack on the burdensome entertainment tax of 40 per cent on gross admissions. And they will take their fight to the public.

London and home county members of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, meeting in semi-annual session, cited the alleged *laissez faire* approach of CEA executives in seeking to obtain tax relief. The executives' attitude has been that the time is unpropitious to attempt to persuade the government to lower the tax in view of high wartime film profits, and also because of Britain's dire need for revenue, irrespective of source.

The exhibitor organization's leaders also accept the Treasury's view that a ticket tax reduction also means

(*Continued on page 6*)

SIMPP to Check on Distribution Setup

HOLLYWOOD, June 18.—Distribution patterns of films produced by members of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, with the focal point determination of whether any artificial impediments to the distribution of independently-produced pictures are operating, will be the subject of an investigation to be made by Robert J. Rubin, former special aide to the U. S. Attorney General and West Coast anti-trust expert. His appointment as assistant to SIMPP president Donald Nelson was announced here today.

Charge Restraint at Seattle Hearing

SEATTLE, June 18.—The Theatre Investment Corp. and the Venetian Theatre Co. charged today that the eight defendant-distributors in the current anti-trust suit here were guilty of monopolistic practices and restraint of trade, in opening testimony before Federal Judge John C. Bowen.

William C. Ferguson and Charles

(*Continued on page 6*)

NAB Urges Film Industry to Study FCC Video Rules

WASHINGTON, June 18. — A. D. Willard Jr., executive vice-president of the National Association of Broadcasters, declared here today that he had urged film industry executives to examine rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission "in the light of television."

Willard made his reference to the film industry during hearings before a Senate subcommittee on a bill to reorganize the FCC. NAB representatives and Senators clashed sharply over the NAB's demand that the FCC be denied all power to regulate program content.

Willard said he "noted with interest" Eric Johnston's recent announcement of film industry editorial shorts as a public service. "If these are tele-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Says Union Strife Ended 15 Companies

HOLLYWOOD, June 18.—Labor union pressures over a period of time forced 15 independent producers out of business, I. E. Chadwick, president of the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, today told a House sub-committee on education and labor. He also said unions had enforced "considerable feather-bedding."

Earlier, Pat Casey, former Motion

(*Continued on page 6*)

WB Acquires 60,500 Shares of Common

In line with Warner Brothers' recently announced intention of acquiring shares of its outstanding common stock on the New York Stock Exchange, the company purchased a total of 60,500 shares in May.

The board of directors at its April 30 meeting authorized the purchase to be made with the intention of holding the shares in the treasury for general corporate purposes.

SGP Sets 15 Deals Abroad

Fifteen Screen Guild Productions franchises have been established in as many European countries by William Pizor, general sales manager in charge of foreign distribution, he disclosed here yesterday following his return from a four-month tour of Europe. Pizor declined to give specific details about the franchises until after he reports on the trip to company executives at a conference on the Coast.

Pizor did indicate, however, that the franchises will service Balkan, Scandinavian and Central European theatres.

He will leave New York for Hollywood on June 28 and will return here about two weeks later.

20th-Fox Standardizes Exchange Operations

One of the most all-embracing distribution operational departments to be created by a distributor has been established by Andrew Smith, Jr., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, for the purpose of standardizing procedures, systems and equipment at all U. S. and Canadian company branches.

Clarence A. Hill is manager of the new department, which will have supervision over all labor relations involving exchanges, all branch personnel, excluding salesmen and exchange and district managers, branch operating costs, overtime, expenses and expense accounts, all sales forms and sales systems, physical equipment and maintenance, all exchange buildings, leases and building maintenance, copyright and other protective matter in connection with distribution, all checking matters (with Hill representing the company on the board of Confidential Reports), all leaves of absence, including sick leave of exchange workers, branch employes' promotions and salary increases, and other matters.

Branch operations are to be made uniform, with the centralization of branch activities to be made the first order in both the U. S. and Canada.

Jack Sichelman and Moe Grassgreen have been assigned to work with Hill, and both of their home office departments are merged under Hill.

Connors Meets Pickford on UA Presidency

Report Fabian Asking More Time for New Bid

An initial conference between Mary Pickford and Tom J. Connors, former distribution vice-president of 20th Century-Fox, regarding the offer of the U.A. presidency made to Connors was held here yesterday.

Following the meeting Miss Pickford said that a decision, either with respect to the company presidency or a sale of the company, would be made by the end of the week.

Miss Pickford's reference to a sale of the company concerns a revival of negotiations by Si Fabian, head of Fabian Theatres, in association with Serge Semenenko of the First National Bank of Boston. Those negotiations, dormant for some weeks past,

(*Continued on page 6*)

Rank Will Address Southern Exhibitors

J. Arthur Rank has accepted an invitation from E. V. Richards, Paramount partner, to re-route his trip back to New York by way of New Orleans, to address Southern exhibitors there.

Accordingly, the Rank party will leave in its private car from Hollywood, on Wednesday, July 9, traveling directly to New Orleans. In the party will be Rank and Mrs. Rank, Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal-International Pictures, and Mr. and Mrs. Jock Lawrence. Rank will sail for England from New York, on the *SS. Queen Elizabeth*, on July 17.

To Elect Paramount Officers Tomorrow

Paramount's board of directors will meet here tomorrow to elect officers, Robert O'Brien, company secretary, reported yesterday. The meeting was expected to be held either yesterday or today, but it was found a quorum

(*Continued on page 6*)

Reviewed Today

"Killer at Large" is reviewed on page 4. Key city gross reports are on page 5.

Personal Mention

FRANK CAPRA, Liberty-Paramount producer-director, has been awarded the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, Degree of Honorary Officer, for assistance given the British war effort.

•

RALPH BLANK, builder of the Chief Theatre, South Omaha, and owner of the Admiral, Omaha, has been given the "outstanding citizen" award by the South Omaha Eagles.

•

TREMAIN F. ROBINSON, public relations representative for the film division of E. I. du Pont, was in New York yesterday from the Wilmington offices.

•

LOU NOVINS, assistant to Paramount president BARNEY BALABAN, will return to New York today from Washington.

•

CHARLES J. SCHLAIFER, advertising-publicity head for 20th Century-Fox, will spend the summer at Sayville, L. I.

•

HERBERT WILCOX and ANNA NEAGLE, his actress-wife, are in Hollywood from New York.

Zigmond and Cooper Head MPF in 'Frisco

SAN FRANCISCO, June 18.—Jerry Zigmond of Paramount here has been named national trustee and chairman of the San Francisco chapter of the Motion Picture Foundation, the 19th local MPF unit to be established.

Roy Cooper, Golden States Theatres' general manager, was elected vice-chairman of the San Francisco unit; Al Maas, president of the Theatrical Employees Union, was named secretary, and Al Schmitken, local Warner Brothers manager, was elected treasurer. The following were elected committeemen: Joe Blumenfeld, Richard Spier, F. M. Billingsley, Jay Golden, Ben Levin, Irving Levin, Neal East, Verne Taylor, Herman Wobber, Homer Tegtmeier, Rotus Harvey, George Nasser and Robert Lippert.

M-G-M Sales Force Grounded by Rodgers

An order forbidding all plane travel by the M-G-M field sales force has been issued by William F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of sales. Action follows the deaths in a plane crash last Friday of 20th-Fox's C. E. Peppiatt and Sam Gross, and has been pending since the death by plane crash two weeks ago of M-G-M employee Ruth Gillis.

Korda Trial Continues

Cross-examination of Laudy Lawrence by Louis Frohlich, attorney for Alexander Korda, continued yesterday in New York Supreme Court in Lawrence's breach of contract suit against Korda. The trial will be resumed today.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

IT is an unfortunate practice of this business to embark upon loose conversation and to draw trigger-like conclusions practically every time a company interrupts its routine. This is old hat, but well established through repetition.

Enterprise, with four of its first year's six under its belt and two of the finished four already in distribution, is the latest to be subjected to this kind of target practice. The shots are reverberating from curbstone chatter pyramiding on a smattering of facts. These facts, chiefly, are that production has been called off until the fall, making the program two attractions shy.

■

Actually, what Enterprise is passing through now is an experience not uncommon down through the years. When Charlie Einfeld and Dave Loew pieced their enterprise together, their ambitions rode high. Unlike the majority of independents, they were not satisfied with space. They wanted a home of their own, came out with Harry Sherman's California Studio and immediately launched into improvements, including a new stage, at a time when Hollywood at large maintained it could not be done.

It squares with the facts, moreover, that Enterprise moved rapidly toward the status of a major operation in a handful of months. There has been criticism over the nature of some of the deals made with personalities—giving too much away was the principal comment—but any independent setting out to beat his head against the competition offered by the old-line studios has to go spectacular or remain rooted to his starting post.

■

One significant chapter in Enterprise's short history has been taken for granted, more or less. This has to do with bank financing and how it normally functions in this industry. Loans have been arranged many times for many independents, of course. But loans made without a firm commitment on distribution are so few that they are rare.

If a Sam Goldwyn or a David Selznick have not had occasion to borrow money on reputation and performance, in all probability they could almost at will. Enterprise, on the other hand, had no reputation and no performance as a producing entity. Neither did the company have, nor did it want, a release as it began to move. Therefore, it was largely without benefit of precedent that the Bank of America, pioneer institution in production financing, became Enterprise's backer. Those careful gents in downtown Los Angeles must be credited with knowing what they were about.

■

The company then proceeded with a considerable degree of headline activity, which is about to become highlighted by the impending release of "Arch of Triumph." When Messrs. Spitz and Goetz sold their International Pictures to Universal and the spotlight centered on them, it was Enterprise which elected to pull out of a releasing deal already sealed. With no place to deposit an expensive hat, the breaks came when Selznick called it a day and thereby opened up a dominant spot at UA.

Meanwhile, practically every dollar was an outgoing dollar and along about this juncture almost 10,000,000 of them had gone out. Recently some began to find their way home via "Ramrod" and "The Other Love," but the anticipated big noise is yet to come from "Arch." All of this focalizes into a problem, logically leading to retrenchment while liquidation of existing productions proceeds.

And that's about it.

■ ■

Major circuits are frowning on advanced admissions. Bowing to the frown and remaining convinced their attraction is worth it, nevertheless, Messrs. Morros, Le Baron and Dembow [Sam] will let "Carnegie Hall" go in August at prevailing prices.

■ ■

Friday, June 13.—Grad Sears caustically declaring MOTION PICTURE DAILY's story about his trip to London is all wet: "I'm going to Hollywood Monday."

Tuesday, June 17—Sears flies to London.

■ ■

No Business Like Show Business Note: "Henry V" played one week at the 405-seat Pix in White Plains. Four shows daily, all seats reserved at $1.80 top. Gross: $9,600.

'Freedom Train' Is Privately Financed

WASHINGTON, June 18.—Attorney General Tom Clark told Congress today that the American Heritage Foundation is privately financed.

Testifying before the House committee on expenditures in executive departments, Clark said that the "Freedom Train" project would be "conducted, wholly managed and financed entirely by a group of private citizens."

Emphasizing the importance of public participation in the project, Clark told the committee that the Department of Justice had appropriated no funds for the Train.

Clark outlined plans to use motion pictures to supplement the traveling exhibit and also to advertise it. He said that all film representatives endorsed the program.

Hargrave Appointed Munitions Unit Head

WASHINGTON, June 18.—President Truman today announced the appointment of Thomas J. Hargrave, Eastman Kodak president, as executive chairman of the Army-Navy Munitions Board, as previously reported. Hargrave succeeds Richard R. Deupree, president of Proctor and Gamble.

The board's task is to chart a workable plan for mobilizing industry in the event of national emergency.

Hargrave, a director of the National Association of Manufacturers and member of the board of Associated Industries of New York State, is a veteran of World War I, an attorney and a leader in many national and community enterprises.

He joined Eastman Kodak in 1927 as head of the legal department and became president in 1941.

Farnol Sets Publicity Staff for New York

A realigned publicity-advertising department of the Samuel Goldwyn organization in New York, of which Lynn Farnol is director, will consist of Henry Senber and George Weissman, handling publicity, and William Ruder, exploitation.

Senber has been active in theatre publicity, while Weissman joined the Goldwyn office six months ago to tour key cities in behalf of "The Best Years of Our Lives." Ruder rejoined the department a year ago after four years of service with the Army Air Forces. Fred Hodgson, publicity writer, who has been in the department on a temporary assignment, will continue two weeks beyond his original commitment to June 27.

McCraw To Tour U.S. For 'Variety Girl'

William McCraw, national executive director of the Variety Clubs, has slated a Coast-to-Coast, 28-day trip, beginning June 22 in Dallas, which will take him into every tent city of the country to map out a campaign for the 30-city "world premieres" of Paramount's "The Variety Girl" with local Variety officers and members. The film will be shown at special tent benefit premieres.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c

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Music by Franz Waxman • Director of Photography Joseph Valentine, A.S.C.

Hungarians Prefer U. S. Pictures, Stars

Hungarians go for American films more than they do for native product, prefer serious drama to comedies and like Charles Boyer and Rita Hayworth best of all Hollywood stars, according to a recent film poll conducted by the Hungarian Institute of Public Opinion, as reported here yesterday by the Motion Picture Export Association.

The survey in which only avowed fans were polled, disclosed that 36 per cent declared in favor of American films to 24 per cent for homemade pictures. Runners up in popularity were English films, which received 16 per cent of the votes and French films with 15 per cent. Russian films ran last in Hungarian preference, winding up in the miscellaneous category with only 6 per cent of the votes.

Contrary to tastes credited to Europeans generally, Hungarians like straight drama more than comedies. The percentage split on this, however, was close, with 57 per cent who like their films serious, to 43 per cent who prefer them light and funny.

As for male Hollywood star popularity, preferences ran as follows, in descending order: Charles Boyer, Gary Cooper, Robert Taylor, Nelson Eddy, Spencer Tracy, Cary Grant, Tyrone Power, Clark Gable, Mickey Rooney, Ray Milland, Bing Crosby, Errol Flynn and Humphrey Bogart.

Top honors among Hollywood actresses went to Rita Hayworth, followed by Irene Dunne, Hedy Lamarr, Ingrid Bergman, Deanna Durbin, Bette Davis, Judy Garland, Claudette Colbert, Joan Crawford, Dorothy Lamour, Loretta Young, Greer Garson, Veronica Lake, Ginger Rogers and Lana Turner.

Chinese Educator Is Honored by the MPA

Dr. James Yen, organizer of the Mass Education Movement in China, to which the American motion picture distributors have contributed a substantial share of film rentals impounded in China, was honor guest at a luncheon given here yesterday at the Harvard Club by the Motion Picture Association.

Among those present were: Ned Depinet, Austin C. Keough, J. J. O'Connor, John Whitaker, Albert J. Richard, Frederic Ullman, Alfred Butterfield, Jack Haney, Earle Hammons, E. O'Connor, Orton H. Hicks, James W. Piper, R. K. Hawkinson, Leon Britton, Alfred Daff, Michael Berger, Wolfe Cohen, and, from the MPA, Francis S. Harmon, who presided, and Roger Albright, Glen Allvine, Arthur DeBra, F. W. DuVall, Joe Goltz, Irving Maas, Gerald M. Mayer, John G. McCarthy and Theodore Smith. Gerard Swope and Dr. John H. Reisner, both sponsors of the China education movement, also were guests.

Review

"Killer at Large"

(*Producers Releasing Corp.*)

A CRUSADING newspaper reporter's battle against corruption within a local veterans' housing administration is entertainingly presented in this Buck Gottlieb production, directed by William Beaudine. It is a modestly-fashioned entry which should be cordially received especially by neighborhood theatre patrons. Robert Lowery and Anabel Shaw fill the principal roles capably, and lesser assignments are given good handling by Charles Evans, Frank Ferguson, George Lynn, Leonard Penn, Ann Staunton and Dick Rich.

Star reporter Lowery quits his paper when editor Ferguson refuses to print the former's "dope-story" exposé of crooked housing deals. So Lowery goes out on his own to get actual proof and before long is digging up plenty of information at a local night club where the embezzlers make their headquarters. Meanwhile, Miss Shaw, a cub reporter, sets out to persuade Lowery to return to the paper and finds herself working with him on his independent crusade. The ironic twist served up by script writers Fenton Earnshaw and Tom Blackburn is that her wealthy father is the chief crook. She and Lowery, after a number of scrapes with some hired killers, succeed in smashing the ring, and she, true to the tradition of the press, writes the story of her father's machinations.

Running time, 64 minutes. General audience classification. Now in release.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

MPA Will Establish Branch in Bombay

Frederick Albert Spencer, Hollywood production executive, will leave here for Bombay in August to establish an office for the Motion Picture Association. Until then, while Gerald Mayer, head of the MPA's international division, is in Europe with MPA president Eric Johnston, Spencer will make his headquarters at the New York office.

A New York and Hollywood studio executive from 1931 to 1941, Spencer in the latter year worked with John Ford on Army photographic projects and in 1944 was appointed to the Anglo-American Film Board at London. Later he coordinated production for the Navy at Anacostia, D. C., and was on special film missions in Japan and at Bikini.

O'Connell Resigns U-I Seattle Branch Post

SEATTLE, June 18.—Arthur O'Connell announced today his resignation as Seattle branch manager for Universal-International. He will be succeeded by George Waide of Los Angeles, who was previously a Seattle booker for Paramount and more recently a salesman for U-I in California.

Breaks French Records

"Man About Town," starring Maurice Chevalier, has broken every record in the history of the motion picture industry in France, according to Phil H. Reisman, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of foreign operations. Billed on the Continent as "Golden Silence," the Rene Clair production for RKO Pathe Cinema is now at the Marignan Theatre, Paris, which seats 1,800 and, at the conclusion of the first week, had played to 46,860 people.

Academy to Sponsor Film Festival in '48

Hollywood, June 18.—In the summer of 1948 this city will be the site of an international film exposition to be sponsored by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. The Academy, in voting unanimously for the fair, designated its executive secretary Margaret Herrick, to attend the film festival to be held in Venice, Italy, in August as a preparatory step.

Directors' Guilds Now Affiliated

Screen Directors' Guild of New York has become affiliated with the Screen Directors' Guild of California.

Principal features of the affiliation are; a geographical allocation of jurisdiction giving the California guild all territory included in the Pacific and Mountain time zones while the New York guild has jurisdiction over all screen directorial work in the Eastern and Central time zones. Members of either guild are permitted to work in both territories.

Screen Publicists Install New Officers

HOLLYWOOD, June 18.—New officers of the Screen Publicists Guild were installed at a membership meeting last night. For the fourth time since the group's organization, Lesley Mason heads the Guild. Other new officers include: John Campbell, vice-president; Frank Perrett, recording secretary; Chip Cleary, financial secretary; Al Jermy, treasurer, and Bill Lyon, trustee for 18th months' incumbency. Milton Gottlieb was again named business manager.

House Votes End to Federal Film Unit

WASHINGTON, June 18.—The House today voted to end the U. S. Office of Government Reports, including the motion picture division, by refusing to appropriate funds for the office in the 1947-48 independent offices appropriations bill.

OGR's film section was set up at the industry's request to serve as liaison between the industry and Government film sections.

Other portions of the bill approved today deny additional personnel [illegible] will National Archives to recondition and inventory war films.

It cuts sharply the appropriations of such agencies as the SEC, the Federal Trade Commission, Tariff Commission, and the Federal Communications Commission. The bill also disapproved Government projects for gathering and publishing additional corporate statistics.

Ginsberg Is Host to Para. Foreign Heads

HOLLYWOOD, June 18.—Henry Ginsberg, Paramount studio head, was host today at a luncheon for Paramount International executives and studio personnel who are holding a series of conferences here on future work markets.

Attending were: George Weltner, president of Paramount International; J. E. Perkins, managing director for Great Britain; F. E. Hutchinson, United Kingdom sales director; John B. Nathan, division manager for Continental Europe; T. C. Reddin, advertising-publicity head for Great Britain; Stanley Craig, general manager for New Zealand; William Hurworth, Jr., Australian general sales manager, and studio executives Jacob Karp, William Meikeljohn, D. A. Doran, Frank Butler, Richard Sokolove, Frank Cleaver, Joe Youngerman, Eugene Zukor, Luigi Luraschi, George Brown, Sidney Justin, Cecil B. DeMille and Edward Schellhorn.

Devonshire in Dallas Deal with Schwartz

BOSTON, June 18. — Devonshire Films has sold a franchise to Harold Schwartz's Tower Pictures, Dallas, to distribute its product in the Dallas and Oklahoma City territories. Schwartz will release one feature monthly, starting with "Storm in a Teacup," starring Vivien Leigh and Rex Harrison, now playing in New York.

Van Baalen Joins PRC

Louis Van Baalen, a veteran of both the army and of 13 years in the motion picture industry, has joined Producers Releasing Corporation as salesman in the Cleveland branch, where he will work under branch manager Mark Goldman, it was announced by Ralph Clark, general sales manager of PRC.

SEE HOPE & CROSBY'S HOT

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

Alan Ladd and William Bendix appeared strongest among the week's newcomers to the town's marquees, "Calcutta" giving the two Paramount the best edge over house averages in a generally desultory week. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 18:

CALCUTTA (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $33,000. (Average: $26,600)

CALCUTTA (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,100)

CHEYENNE (WB) — WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $18,200)

CHEYENNE (WB) — WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $15,500)

CHEYENNE (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $14,900)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) — GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,900)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) — IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,200)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) — RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,600)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,100)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,800)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) — CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $11,500)

HONEYMOON (RKO Radio) and DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA (RKO Radio) — HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,800)

HONEYMOON (RKO Radio) and DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $20,800)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M) — EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c - 60c - 85c - $1.00). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,100)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M)—FOX WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c - 60c - 85c - $1.00) Gross: $14,500. (Average: $13,300)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,095) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $22,600)

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,200)

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (20th-Fox) and HER SISTER'S SECRET (PRC) — LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: 27,000. Average: $28,600)

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,500)

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $13,200)

RAMROD (UA - Ent.) — MUSIC HALL Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $3,600. (Average: $4,700)

RAMROD (UA - ENT.) — MUSIC HALL Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $14,200)

RAMROD (UA-Ent.)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: 3,250. (Average: $5,400)

RAMROD (UA - Ent.) — MUSIC HALL Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,700)

TIME OUT OF MIND (U-I) and THUNDER MOUNTAIN (RKO Radio) — BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: 5,000. (Average: $7,100)

TIME OUT OF MIND (U-I) and THUNDER MOUNTAIN (RKO Radio)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,800)

TIME OUT OF MIND (U-I) and THUNDER MOUNTAIN (RKO Radio) — ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $18,800)

TIME OUT OF MIND (U-I) and THUNDER MOUNTAIN (RKO Radio)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $10,000)

PITTSBURGH

"Duel in the Sun" and "Miracle on 34th Street" registered impressively. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 19:

BOOMERANG (20th-Fox)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,700)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—PENN (3,400) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $41,000. (Average: $25,000)

GO INTO YOUR DANCE (WB reissue) and SING ME A LOVE SONG (WB reissue) — STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $10,500. (Average: $25,000)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,000)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,500)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M) — RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 3rd week 7 days. Gross: $4 000. (Average: $3,200)

UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M) and LITTLE MISTER JIM (M-G-M) — SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)

KANSAS CITY

It rained most of the week until Sunday when the sunshine enticed people outdoors. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 17-19:

CHEYENNE (WB) — NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 6½ days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average, 6½ days: $10,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—MIDLAND (3,500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $35,000. (Average at regular prices of 45c-65c: $15,000)

HONEYMOON (RKO Radio) and DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Allied Artists-Mono.) — FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c). Gross: $1,925. (Average: $1,750)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Allied Artists-Mono.) — TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c). Gross: $10,000. (Average, when running stage show and double feature: $9,000)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Allied Artists-Mono.) — UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,000)

KIT CARSON (PRC reissue) and THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS (PRC reissue)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $6,000)

CHICAGO

Loop business held up fine this week. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 19-20:

CALCUTTA (Para.) — GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 5th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500)

COPACABANA (UA) — ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Jayne Walton. Gross: $50,000. (Average: $40,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO) — STATE-LAKE (2,700) (Advance prices: $1.00-$1.20-$1.40-$1.50) 5th week. Gross: $33,000. (Average at regular prices: $30,000)

EGG AND I (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $16,000)

FRAMED (Col.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c) 2nd week. On stage: Billy deWolf and The Mills Brothers. Gross: $51,000. (Average: $59,000)

HONEYMOON (RKO Radio) — PALACE (2,500) (95c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $26,000)

JOLSON STORY (Col.) — APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 25th week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $12,000)

LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) — UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $25,500)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—WOODS (1,200) (95c). Gross: $29,000. (Average: $17,500)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) — ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $20,000)

ST. LOUIS

All grosses plummeted sharply under the effect of the city-wide bus and street-car strike. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 18:

APACHE ROSE (Rep.) and TWILIGHT ON THE RIO GRANDE (Rep.) — SHUBERT (2,000) (40c-50c-60c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,800)

BEDELIA (PRC) and LOST HONEYMOON (PRC)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,500)

DEAR RUTH (Para.) and JUNGLE FLIGHT (Para.)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $11,500)

DISHONORED LADY (UA) — LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $19,700)

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and CHILD OF DIVORCE (RKO Radio)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $19,000)

RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.) and SINGIN' IN THE CORN (Col.) — LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,600)

SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio) and BANJO (RKO Radio) — AMBASSADOR (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $16,800)

MINNEAPOLIS

First-runs did a near-average business despite the lure of outdoor attractions. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 19:

CALCUTTA (Para.)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,600)

THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M reissue)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $5,200. (Average: $7,300)

MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M) — GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: $3,200. (Average: $3,400)

RAMROD (UA)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $12,800. (Average: $13,000)

TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.) — RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,000)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) — RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,500)

TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio) — RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,500)

Gets Pittsfield House

PITTSFIELD, Mass., June 18.—James J. Rabinowitz has acquired ownership of the Kameo Theatre here, following dissolution of the Allen Enterprises Corp. which owned the house and of which Rabinowitz was head.

'Life with Father' To Have Me. Premiere

The world premiere of the Warner Brothers' film version of "Life with Father" will be held on Aug. 14 at the Lakewood Theatre, Skowhegan, Me., where the original play had its tryout on the same date eight years ago. A New York delegation of more than 150, including newspaper, magazine, trade paper, syndicate, radio and theatrical personalities, will attend.

The premiere will be followed immediately by the Broadway premiere of the Technicolor production, starring William Powell and Irene Dunne, at the Hollywood Theatre here. In the same week, it is planned to have more than 200 day-and-date openings throughout the country.

Jones Sets Ballyhoo For 'New Orleans'

"New Orleans," Jules Levey-UA, will have its Broadway premiere today at the Winter Garden. Charles Reed Jones, Levey publicity-advertising representative, has arranged for a jazz concert on a truck in Times Square. Later, Art Hodes' band will broadcast from the Damon Runyon Cancer Fund headquarters over WOV.

Louis Armstrong and Jack Teagarden will head another jazz band on the stage of the Winter Garden. The Armstrong-Teagarden concert will be broadcast over WNBC and part of the NBC network.

Hollywood Preview For Rank Picture

J. Arthur Rank, together with Nate J. Blumberg, announced yesterday that the first Anglo-American press preview of a film to be staged in Hollywood will be held at the Carthay Circle Theatre on July 7, when the Technicolor picture, "Black Narcissus," will be shown.

Rank, who is now vacationing at Del Monte, will return to Hollywood to attend the preview. He and Blumberg will be joint hosts.

'King's Jester' Premiere

Brandt's Apollo Theatre in Manhattan and Brandt's Atlantic Playhouse, Brooklyn, will go to a single-feature policy when "The King's Jester" has its simultaneous American premiere on June 25. "The King's Jester", produced by Scalera Films of Rome, is an Italian-language film based on Verdi's opera, "Rigoletto."

Beach Theatre Opening

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va., June 18.—A gala opening is planned by William F. Crockett and David Pender for their new Beach Theatre here on July 1. Local and industry notables have been invited to attend.

'Musketeers' Out July 1

"Three Musketeers," a Favorite Films feature starring John Wayne, will be released nationally on July 1.

HOOTING IN VARIETY GIRL

British Tax Fight

(*Continued from page* 1)

greater revenue for American distributors here who would be able to remit additional dollars to parent companies in the U. S.

Every exhibitor speaker during the debate at the CEA meeting characterized these arguments as "eye-wash," maintaining that if the present "persistent decline in admissions of the past nine months" persists, independent exhibitors will be driven out of business. They demanded without equivocation that the CEA forthwith embark upon a nationwide campaign to tell the public about the tax burden on their entertainment. The attack obviously surprised the CEA officials. B. T. Davis, national president of the CEA, present at the meeting as a guest, pledged his personal aid in the fight.

It is believed likely that film renters will join the exhibitors in propagandizing the public and in their attack on the government for relief.

The decline in admissions in Britain is believed to be still not as pronounced as in America, but it is sufficient to cause grave concern.

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Britons Lost Agfa Process Patents

LONDON, June 18.—Questioned in the House of Commons whether the German Agfa color process patents and Agfa materials have been made available in Britain, John Belcher, in behalf of British Board of Trade president Sir Stafford Cripps, said that all but one German Agfa patent in Britain expired during the war, owing to non-payment of renewal fees. The exception was a patent concerning sensitizing dyes in which a British concern held a license to the German rights. But this patent has since been "extinguished" and cannot be revived here.

Belcher added that various necessary chemical ingredients for the Agfa process have not yet been produced in Britain in commercial quantities, but given time and assured of a demand, he said, this doubtless can be remedied. Belcher added that the Board of Trade understands that some important British firms are now engaged in experimental work with a view towards commercially exploiting the process in England.

Charge Restraint

(*Continued from page* 1)

Burdell, attorneys for the plaintiff, charged that the distributors had set up uniform classifications and runs by agreement with various exhibitors, and were guilty of conspiracy in restraint of trade.

These monopolies, Ferguson argued further, had prevented the Bagdad and Venetian theatres from third or similar runs for a period of 60 days following first-runs. Failure to obtain these runs, claim the plaintiffs, caused damages to the Bagdad and Venetian, members of the Jensen and Von Herberg circuit, to the extent of $132,000 which amount should be trebled under the anti-trust laws, they say. The plaintiffs have asked that a decree be entered halting these practices.

The plaintiffs also charge that Fox-affiliated theatres in Seattle, first-run moveover, second-run and third-run houses were guilty of monopolistic practices from 1939 to 1945. Arguments for the defendant distributors and exhibitors are expected tomorrow.

'Linda' Cameo's First

Cameo Pictures will release its first production, "Linda, Be Good," through Producers Releasing Corp., it was announced by Harry H. Thomas, president of PRC.

The initial production effort was selected by Matty Kemp, Cameo's vice-president in charge of production. "Linda, Be Good" is an original by Dick Hyland and Howard Harris. The story was formerly the property of Mike Todd and Sam Coslow.

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FCC Video Rules

(*Continued from page* 1)

vised," he stated, "will the film industry be hauled into a hearing, as were the broadcasters?"

NAB president Justin Miller, counsel Don Petty and Willard argued that FCC program regulations violated the First Amendment of the Constitution. Willard declared that it is "a source of great disappointment to broadcasters that the authors of the FCC bill, having specifically shown every intent to remove the FCC from the control of the program structure of American radio, should in one section hand it directly back to the administrative agency."

Subcommittee chairman White told broadcasters that "if you are putting your case on the basis of no supervision at all, you are wasting your time, because Congress won't stand for it." White added that "not a single helpful suggestion has come from any communication interest on this bill."

WASHINGTON, June 18.—President Truman today withdrew the nomination of Roy C. Wakefield for reappointment as a member of the Federal Communications Commission and nominated in his place Robert Franklin Jones, of Ohio. Wakefield's nomination had been encountering some opposition in the Senate.

Union Strife

(*Continued from page* 1)

Picture Association labor adviser, said that no contract he had signed with film unions during his career called for a stipulated number of men to be employed. Jurisdictional disputes had cost the studios tremendous sums, he added, pointing out that this was chiefly due to the inferior labor performances rendered by men who were employed while experienced regulars were out on strike.

Only government action can eliminate jurisdictional disputes, he said.

Monogram labor representative Fred Steele testified that the current dispute between the IATSE and the Carpenters International had compelled his studio to employ double personnel on several occasions.

Congressman Carroll B. Kearns, who is conducting the hearings, will adjourn the sessions tomorrow afternoon to fly to Washington. He will return later to resume the inquiry.

Fabian Golf Tourney

Fabian Theatres' annual golf tournament and party will be given by Si Fabian and Sam Rosen at Preakness Hills Country Club, Wayne Township, N. J., on July 17.

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RMA Reelects Taylor To Transmitter Post

S. P. Taylor, distributor sales manager of the radio division of Western Electric Co., has been reelected chairman of the transmitter division of the Radio Manufacturers Association. R. E. Carlson, vice-president of Tung-Sol Lamp Works, Newark, and W. J. Barkley, executive vice-president of Collins Radio Co., Cedar Rapids, Ia., have been elected vice-presidents. New directors are H. L. Hoffman, of Hoffman Radio Corp., Los Angeles; Harry C. Sparks, of Sparks-Withington Co., Jackson, Mich.; E. N. Wendell, of Federal Telephone and Radio Corp., and W. A. MacDonald, of Hazeltine Electronics Corp.

Connors

(*Continued from page* 1)

reportedly are being revived in a last-minute effort to present a new offer to purchase United Artists.

Fabian, it is said, asked for time to put the new offer into final form.

Miss Pickford intimated strongly that if the new Fabian offer is unacceptable, the U.A. presidency would go to Connors immediately.

It could not be learned last night whether Fabian's new and final offer will be ready in time for the United Artists board of directors to take action on it at a meeting scheduled for today. If it is, and the offer is found unacceptable, the board could ratify Connors as president at today's session, one informed source said.

It was officially stated that there are no offers, other than Fabian's, for purchase of the company which are considered seriously.

Connors conferred previously with Charles Schwartz, attorney and U.A. board representative for Charles Chaplin. Hence, it is taken for granted that only Miss Pickford's approval is needed now for his appointment to the presidency. Indications following yesterday's meeting were that progress had been made.

Elect Para. Officers

(*Continued from page* 1)

would not be available until tomorrow.

All present officers are candidates for reelection, including: Barney Balaban, president; Adolph Zukor, board chairman; Y. Frank Freeman, vice-president at the Coast studio; Henry Ginsberg, vice-president and general manager in charge of studio operations; Leonard H. Goldenson, vice-president in charge of theatres; Stanton Griffis, chairman of the executive committee; Austin C. Keough, vice-president and chief counsel; Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of domestic sales; Paul Raibourn, vice-president in charge of budget and planning; Fred Mohrhardt, treasurer: Robert O'Brien, secretary; Russell Holman, assistant secretary; Jacob H. Karp, assistant secretary; Frank Meyer, assistant secretary.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
May 24	LAW OF THE CANYON Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O	(May Releases) HIGH BARBAREE Van Johnson June Allyson D—91 min. (Rev. 3/13/47)	THE LAW COMES TO GUNSIGHT Johnny Mack Brown O—(672)				(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)	(May Releases) THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR Rex Harrison Gene Tierney D—104 min. (7157) (Rev. 5/16/47)	(Hopalong Cassidy) DANGEROUS VENTURE William Boyd O—59 mins. (Rev. 2/18/47)	(May Releases) TIME OUT OF MIND Phyllis Calvert Robert Hutton Ella Raines D—88 mins. (Rev. 3/7/47)	THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS Humphrey Bogart Barbara Stanwyck D—100 min. (621) (Rev 4/1/47)
May 31	THE MILLERSON CASE Warner Baxter PRAIRIE RAIDERS Charles Starrett THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. George Brent Joan Blondell D—87 min.	UNDERCOVER MAISIE Ann Sothern Barry Nelson C—90 min. (Rev. 3/4/47)	SONG OF THE WASTELAND Jimmy Wakely O	CALCUTTA Alan Ladd Wm. Bendix D—83 min. (Rev. 4/16/47)	KILLER AT LARGE Robert Lowery O—63 min.		THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)	HOMESTRETCH Cornel Wilde Maureen O'Hara D—96 min. (713) (Rev. 4/18/47)	(Sam Coslow) COPACABANA Groucho Marx Carmen Miranda M—92 mins. (Rev. 5/22/47)	(Reissue) MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION Irene Dunne Robert Taylor D—101 min. (2795)	
June 1		(Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)			STEPCHILD Brenda Joyce D—70 min. (Rev. 6/13/47)	THAT'S MY MAN Don Ameche Catherine McLeod D—104 min. (Rev. 4/7/47)	JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG Richard Travis Micheline Cheirel D—64 min. (716) (Rev. 4/10/47)			(Reissue) 100 MEN AND A GIRL Deanna Durbin Leopold Stokowski D—84 min. (2796)	
June 8		THE YEARLING Gregory Peck Jane Wyman D—134 min. (717) (Rev. 11/27/46)			PHILO VANCE RETURNS William Wright D—64 min. (Rev. 4/30/47)		DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47)	(June Releases) MOSS ROSE Peggy Cummins Victor Mature D—82 min. (717) (Rev. 5/22/47)		(June Releases) ODD MAN OUT James Mason Robert Newton D—113 min. (Rev. 2/26/47)	CHEYENNE Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman O—100 mins. (622) (Rev. 4/23/47)
June 15	LITTLE MISS BROADWAY Jean Porter M—69 min.	(June Releases) LIVING IN A BIG WAY Gene Kelly Marie McDonald D—103 min. (Rev. 5/29/47)	HIGH CONQUEST Anna Lee Warren Douglas D—83 mins. (620) (Rev. 3/13/47)	DANGER STREET Jane Withers D—66 min. (4623) (Rev. 2/27/47)		WEB OF DANGER Adele Mara D—58 min. (Rev. 6/18/47)	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)	MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET Maureen O'Hara John Payne D—96 min. (718) (Rev. 5/2/47)	(Comet) STORK BITES MAN Jackie Cooper C	THE WEB Edward O'Brien Ella Raines William Bendix D—87 min. (615) (Rev. 5/22/47)	
June 22	SPORT OF KINGS Paul Campbell D—68 min. SWING THE WESTERN WAY Jack Leonard O—66 min.	DARK DELUSION James Craig Lucille Bremer D—90 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)		THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—80 min. (4614) (Rev. 4/28/47)	HEARTACHES Sheila Ryan D PIONEER JUSTICE Al La Rue O	NORTHWEST OUTPOST Nelson Eddy Ilona Massey D—91 min. (615) (Rev. 5/12/47)				IVY Joan Fontaine Herbert Marshall Patric Knowles D—99 min. (Rev. 6/9/47)	
June 29	STRANGER FROM PONCA CITY Smiley Burnette O		KILROY WAS HERE Jackie Cooper Jackie Coogan D—(621)	THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Color) Betty Hutton John Lund C—96 min. (4615) (Rev. 5/26/47)		RUSTLERS OF DEVIL'S CANYON Alan Lane O—58 min.	(Block 7) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)				THE UNFAITHFUL Ann Sheridan Lew Ayres D—109 min. (623) (Rev. 5/27/47)
July 6	KEEPER OF THE BEES Michael Duane Gloria Henry D	(July Releases) CYNTHIA Elizabeth Taylor Mary Astor D—98 min. (Rev. 5/20/47)				THE TRESPASSER Dale Evans D—71 min.	THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (Rev. 6/3/47)	(July Releases) BOB, SON OF BATTLE Lon McCallister Peggy Ann Garner Edmund Gwenn D—103 min. (Rev. 6/5/47)	(Enterprise) THE OTHER LOVE Barbara Stanwyck David Niven D—96 min. (Rev. 3/28/47)	(July Releases) THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay O—67 min. (Rev. 6/2/47)	
July 13	GUNFIGHTERS (Color) Randolph Scott O—87 min. (Rev. 6/13/47)	FIESTA (Color) Esther Williams M—104 min. (Rev. 6/12/47)		DEAR RUTH Joan Caulfield William Holden C—95 min. (4616) (Rev. 5/28/47)		SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min.	UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (Rev. 6/17/47)	MEET ME AT DAWN William Eythe Hazel Court D—99 min.	(Hopalong Cassidy) HOPPY'S HOLIDAY William Boyd O—60 min. (Rev. 5/5/47)	GREAT EXPECTATIONS John Mills Valerie Hobson Francis L. Sullivan D—115 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)	
July 20	PACIFIC ADVENTURE Lon Randall Muriel Steinbeck D—80 min.						RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (Rev. 6/12/47)	THE CRIMSON KEY Kent Taylor D—76 min.	(Hunt Stromberg) LURED Lucille Ball George Sanders D		POSSESSED Joan Crawford Van Heflin D—108 min. (624) (Rev. 5/29/47)
July 27											

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.]

"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"

is now in its 5th week at the Radio City Music Hall. This is not only a fine tribute to the extraordinary quality of this picture, but also the best evidence of its box office stature.



J. ARTHUR RANK *presents*

JOHN MILLS
VALERIE HOBSON *in* **"Great Expectations"**

with BERNARD MILES • FRANCIS L. SULLIVAN
and introducing ANTHONY WAGER *and* JEAN SIMMONS
Directed by DAVID LEAN • *Produced by* RONALD NEAME
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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 120 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 1947 TEN CENTS

U.S. Tax Loss Only 35% in ATA Program

Gov't Tax on Exhibitors Would Be Cut 135 Millions

Reduction of U. S. admission taxes to be proposed by the American Theatres Association, probably in association with two other exhibitor groups, would result in a Government yield of 65 per cent of the present annual total of $400,000,000, Robert W. Coyne, ATA executive director, estimates. Thus exhibition's contributions to the U. S. Treasury by way of admission taxes would go down to $265,000,000, a cut of some $135,000,000 for theatres.

Coyne said that in a telephone conversation yesterday with Harold

(*Continued on page 7*)

1st Annual Meet of Enterprise Monday

HOLLYWOOD, June 19.—Enterprise Studios' production policies for the ensuing fiscal year and its sales and merchandising plans will be discussed at the firm's initial annual planning meeting, scheduled to open here on Monday.

One entire session of the meeting will be devoted to developing the program on the company's $4,000,000 production of Erich Maria Remarque's "Arch of Triumph."

First Enterprise films to be released this summer are "The Other Love" and "Body and Soul."

Plans will also be discussed for the 1947-48 production schedule, a major-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Republic Business Is Up 30%: Grainger

CHICAGO, June 19.—James R. Grainger, Republic Pictures' executive vice-president in charge of sales, said here this morning at the close of a three-day general sales meeting held here, that to date, Republic's collections for this year are up approximately 30 per cent.

Edward L. Walton, assistant general sales manager, and district managers Will Baker, Midwestern; Sam Seplowin, Central, and Nat Steinberg.

(*Continued on page 8*)

Agnew Sees Record 8,000 Road Show Bookings for 'Duel'

Neil F. Agnew, president of the Selznick Releasing Organization, estimated yesterday that "Duel in the Sun" will be given 8,000 road show engagements before it goes into general release. He believes it will set a new all-time industry record for such engagements.



Neil F. Agnew

Agnew said that Selznick's "Gone with the Wind" garnered 4,404 road show engagements. "Duel," he said, originally was figured to be good for 5,000 such dates but it has 3,000 to its credit now and it is just getting started, Agnew pointed out.

The road show engagements can be completed by the end of the year, he

(*Continued on page 8*)

Rankin Asks House For D. C. 'Duel' Ban

WASHINGTON, June 19.—Film critic John Rankin (Dem.) of Mississippi asked the House today to ban further showing of "Duel in the Sun" in the District of Columbia, and thereby touched off quite a debate.

Rankin threw into the House hopper a resolution calling the film

(*Continued on page 8*)

Arthur Kelly Is Named UA Director

Arthur W. Kelly, one-time acting head of United Artists, and also foreign manager for the company, yesterday was elected to the company's board of directors. He will represent Charles Chaplin on the board and replaces Rex Dennant, resigned.

Kelly also is slated to become executive vice-president of UA under any new management program the company effects.

20th Gets New Decree Stays

Twentieth Century-Fox has been granted U. S. Supreme Court postponement of operation of the "price-fixing" and "arbitrary refusal" provisions of the New York Federal Court's decree, it was disclosed here yesterday by Andrew W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager.

The company had the opportunity to have the two injunctions, as well as practically all others concerning distribution stayed by the high court last April, but instead asked for and received stays on only the competitive bidding and arbitration provisions of the decree. All seven other defendant companies in the anti-trust case obtained stays on the distribution injunctions in April.

As a result of the new action, 20th-Fox is now free to roadshow films, the legality of this being established with the elimination of the injunction against fixing minimum admis-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Johnston Program Set For Trip; Leaves Sunday

Seek 'IA' Consent for Pathe 'Lab' Strike

A request for approval of a strike of office employes at the East 106th St. and Bound Brook laboratories of Pathe Industries has been sent to Thomas J. Shea, assistant international president of the IATSE, by Motion Picture Home Office Employes Local No. H-63.

While the strike possibility involves only 35 employes directly, laboratory

(*Continued on page 7*)

The program for Eric Johnston's five-week trip to Belgium, France, England, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, Norway and Germany, has been completed. Its keynote features his urging the governments of those countries to heed Secretary of State Marshall's plea for European economic unity in order to realize "integrated" United States support.

The Johnston party will leave New York on Sunday, with Gerald Mayer, head of the MPA's international division, and Joyce O'Hara, Johnston ad-

(*Continued on page 8*)

UA Presidency May Go to Connors Today

Decision, Up to Pickford, Is Promised for Today

With Charles Chaplin's representatives prepared to go along if Mary Pickford gives her approval, all indications pointed last night to the naming of Tom J. Connors to the United Artists presidency today.

Miss Pickford said her decision would be made before nightfall.

Circumstances do not rule out an acceptance by Miss Pickford of a revised bid by Si Fabian, Eastern circuit operator, backed by the First National Bank of Boston, for purchase of U.A., but they do give Connors a decided edge.

Yesterday's meeting of the United Artists board of directors brought forth strong expressions from all sides in favor of an immediate decision which would dispel the uncertainty over the company's future status which has ruled for what most of the directors believe to be too long a time. It was urged that further in-

(*Continued on page 8*)

MPTOA Asks Drive For Ass'n Members

A campaign to induce all theatre owners to join exhibitor organizations in order to strengthen them to oppose censorship and other measures inimical to the industry is urged by Fred Wehrenberg, president of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, in a current membership bulletin.

"As never before in the history of the industry," Wehrenberg writes, "it

(*Continued on page 8*)

46 on Dais Today at Smith Luncheon

Ned Depinet, Si Fabian, Ted Gamble, Malcolm Kingsberg, Spyros P. Skouras and 41 others will occupy the dais at the industry-sponsored testimonial luncheon for Andrew W.

(*Continued on page 6*)

In This Issue

"Dear Murderer" is reviewed on page 6. Key city gross reports are on page 7.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES P. CUNNINGHAM

THE 12-year-old boy whose grave on the right-of-way of the Chicago and North Western Railroad track, at a lonely prairie location, is the scene of wreath-laying ceremonies every Memorial Day, is the inspiration for the story, "The Little Fellow," which Hollywood's Roy Del Ruth has purchased from writer George Callahan for feature production.

The boy was a sort of mascot of the railroaders on the line and whenever possible ran to the tracks to wave to them at the exact spot where he was finally buried, at his request.

The son of railroad parents, the boy became known to the railroad men as "The Little Fellow." He will return as a ghost to straighten out a human problem, in Hollywood fashion.

▽

George Skouras' Nick Matsoukas, founder of the National Committee of 13 Against Superstition, has taken on the mountainous job of debunking the 80,000 superstitions which bother man. The absolutely-unsuperstitious Nick Matsoukas came by way of his hobby because he was born on the 13th, the 13th child in a family of 13, whose name has 13 letters and who first set eyes on the Statute of Liberty on the 13th day of the month, fresh from Greece.

▽

Curiosity over the origin of the word "video" led us to Dr. Alfred Goldsmith, eminent radio-television specialist and well known in the film business as well. And there the trail ended, for we learned that it was Goldsmith and his close friend, John V. L. Hogan, president of Fac-simile, Inc., who suggested the term, back in the mid-1930's, at a meeting of a committee on terminology standards of the Institute of Radio Engineers. Their first choice was "visio," but later they hit on "video" as being of stronger "character."

▽

Chicago film trailer-maker Irving Mack tells the yarn about the youngster who asked his rich uncle, "When are you going to play football again?" and was informed by the uncle that he did not play football, the uncle in turn asking, "Why that question?"

"Well," replied the nephew, "Pop says that when you kick off we are going to buy a brand new house."

▽

Century Circuit's Ed Schreiber passes along a unique piece of promotion proffered by Century's Monroe Schram, for use by any theatre in an area having parking meters. The idea is to drop pennies in meters at which cars are parked overtime, leaving a card imprinted with the following: "SAVED FROM AN OVERTIME PARKING SUMMONS. A COIN HAS JUST BEEN DEPOSITED IN YOUR PARKING METER BY COURTESY OF THE ..... THEATRE."

Personal Mention

HENRY GINSBERG, Paramount vice-president in charge of production and studio operation, will leave the Coast by plane tomorrow for New York.

•

SENN LAWLER, public relations representative of Fox Midwest, has been reelected vice-chairman of the Jackson County, Mo. chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

•

MAURICE N. WOLF, assistant to WILLIAM F. RODGERS, distribution vice-president of Loew's, Inc., has left Hollywood for New York by plane.

•

MORTON SUNSHINE, business manager of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, has been ill at his home for the past week.

•

CEIL BERNERT of Screencraft Pictures, Inc., leaves New York for the West Coast by plane today on an extended vacation.

•

COL. NATHAN LEVINSON, chief of sound department at Warners studio, arrives here Monday from the Coast.

•

JOAN LESLIE, Eagle-Lion star, will arrive in New York on Monday from Hollywood.

GEORGE J. SCHAEFER, vice-president in charge of Enterprise sales, will leave here for the Coast by plane today.

•

BENJAMIN ASTOR of Columbia Pictures International Corp. and the former ANITA WARMBRANDT, married here this week, are now vacationing in Havana.

•

EDWARD SCHOENTHAL, manager of the Central States Sun Theatre in Holdrege, Neb., has married JOSEPHINE PETER of Grand Island, Neb.

•

RALPH DOYLE, RKO Radio's managing director for Australasia, arrives in New York today from Sydney via San Francisco by air.

•

JAMES ALLEN, head of The Warner News, leaves here for the Coast tonight to arrange for transferring his headquarters to New York.

•

ED HINCHY, head of Warners' playdate department, was in New Haven yesterday and goes to Boston today.

•

JACK ELLIS, New York district manager for United Artists, returned here from Oneida yesterday.

Gamble and Coyne to Jersey Allied Meet

Ted Gamble, chairman, and Robert Coyne, executive director of the American Theatres Association, will attend the June 24-26 Atlantic City convention of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey and the testimonial dinner to national Allied president Jack Kirsch, it was disclosed here yesterday by Jersey Allied president Edward Lachman. Registration for the convention has passed the 400 mark, he added. The convention will be opened by Lachman, and Kirsch will serve as moderator of a forum.

Opening day speakers will include Dr. Allen B. DuMont, president of DuMont Television Laboratories, who will discuss theatre television; Michael De Angelis, Rochester architect, who will talk on theatre building and remodeling, and Arthur Sorin, president of Armo Cooling and Ventilating Co., who will discuss theatre air conditioning.

A convention golf tournament will be held at Linwood Country Club on June 26, under supervision of Lee Newbury and Dr. Henry Brown.

Lawrence Heads SRO Foreign Sales

The reported deal by which Laudy Lawrence becomes foreign sales manager for Selznick Releasing Organization-Vanguard Films was confirmed yesterday by Neil F. Agnew.

Lawrence will make his headquarters in London and will leave to take up his new post there as soon as he winds up current affairs here.

World Film Exhibit At Eastman Mansion

ROCHESTER, N. Y., June 19.—George Eastman House, Inc., will be the name of a world center for the display and demonstration of all branches of the art and science of cinematography and photography to be established here as a memorial to the late Eastman, according to an announcement made here today by Alan Valentine, president of the University of Rochester, and Thomas J. Hargrave, E-K president.

The historical and cultural institute will be established in Eastman House, the mansion built by Eastman for himself and his mother in 1905. It was bequeathed on his death to the university as a residence for its presidents. By joint action of the New York State Board of Regents and Kodak, the project will be set up as an educational institute to serve as an instruction and demonstration center covering photography from its beginning to the present.

McMaster Elected Vice-Pres. And Ass't General Manager

ROCHESTER, N. Y., June 19.—Election of Donald McMaster, deputy chairman of the Board of Kodak, Ltd., as vice-president and assistant general manager of Eastman Kodak was announced here today by directors of the company.

He will take over some of the work formerly handled by Ivar N. Hultman who will now devote full time to Kodak Park operations.

Bergman to ATO Meet

Maurice A. Bergman, Universal-International's Eastern advertising-publicity director, will be one of the principal speakers at the midsummer convention of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana at Wawasee, Ind., on Tuesday. He will discuss present trends in motion picture promotion.

NEW YORK THEATRES

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John MILLS • Valerie HOBSON
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"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

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JOAN BENNETT
ROBERT RYAN • CHARLES BICKFORD
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'THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH'
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Allied Artists Productions, Inc., presents
Don De Fore - Ann Harding - Charlie Ruggles
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"IT HAPPENED On 5th AVENUE"
Doors Open 9:30 A.M. RIVOLI Continuous Performances
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'LOST HONEYMOON'
FRANCHOT TONE
ANN RICHARDS
TOM CONWAY
IN PERSON
BERT WHEELER
Harry Kahne
EXTRA!
Maureen CANNON

WILLIAM HOLDEN • JOAN CAULFIELD
in "Dear Ruth"
with
BILLY DE WOLFE • EDWARD ARNOLD
MONA FREEMAN
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
PERRY COMO
LLOYD SHAFFER and his ORCHESTRA
HELEN CARROLL and the SATISFIERS
LARRY STORCH
THE FOUR EVANS
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

31st WEEK!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE BEST FILM OF THE YEAR!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
ASTOR
B'WAY & 45th ST.

Maureen O'Hara, John Payne, Edmond Gwenn
"Miracle on 34th Street"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Plus on Stage—JERRY LESTER - ART LUND
Extra! JAN AUGUST
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Coming Events

Today—Paramount board of directors meeting to elect officers, New York.

June 23-25 — Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana convention, Lake Wawasee, Ind.

June 24-26—Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey 28th annual convention, Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City.

June 26—Testimonial dinner to Jack Kirsch sponsored by Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City.

June 30—Industry testimonial dinner to Jack Flynn, retiring Midwestern sales manager for M-G-M Continental Hotel, Chicago.

July 7-9—RKO Radio annual sales meeting, Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

July 13-16—Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio convention, Breakers Hotel, Cedar Point, O.

Settle Two Illinois Percentage Suits

CHICAGO, June 19.—Two separate suits filed in May, 1946, by United Artists and Universal against the Anderson Theatre Circuit, Morris, Ill., were settled here today, it was announced by Miles Seeley, attorney for the plaintiffs. Amount of the settlement was not disclosed.

In the original filing, both UA and Universal, plus Loew's, Warner Brothers, Paramount, RKO Radio and 20th Century-Fox brought suit against the circuit over percentage rentals on films shown in the following theatres: Fargo and Egyptian, DeKalb; Morris and Times, Morris; Arcadia, St. Charles; Naper, Naperville; and Esquire, Plainfield.

Negotiations are still in progress on a settlement for the five other suits. Thomas M. Thomas is attorney for the circuit.

Deny Restraint in Seattle Court Case

SEATTLE, June 19.—There is no evidence to support the plaintiff's claim that the eight distributing companies in Seattle have been guilty of any conspiracy to restrain trade, Clarence Innis, defense attorney in the Theatre Investment anti-trust suit, said today as the trial entered the second day before Federal Judge John C. Bowen here. Opening the arguments for defendant distributors, Innis said 20th Century-Fox and the other seven companies here merely followed "good, sound business policy" in the application of their licensing agreements.

Innis referred to "availability clauses" in the code originally established by the NRA in 1935, and said that Jensen and Von Herberg, the plaintiffs, had expressed approval of these arrangements, which in effect were similar to those now being followed by the defendants.

Limited Film Grant For U. S. Program

WASHINGTON, June 19.—Members of the Senate Appropriations Sub-Committee have tentatively agreed on a $15,000,000 appropriation for the State Department's overseas information program, according to Chairman Ball.

This would presumably include funds for a very limited motion picture program. The Department originally asked for $37,000,000. Of the $15,000,000 contemplated by the Senate group, $6,500,000 would be for radio broadcasts, over $3,000,000 for the Latin American program, and almost $2,000,000 for liquidation costs of the New York office, which is to be closed completely. This would leave only about $3,000,000 for the film, magazine, library and other projects.

The appropriation is being planned in the Senate as a substitute for approval of the Mundt bill authorizing a permanent overseas information program. The House originally denied all funds for the program pending the enactment of authorizing legislation.

A House vote on the Mundt bill is hoped for tomorrow. If it passes in the House, GOP leaders expect it to be sidetracked in the Senate.

The Senate appropriations bill would specify that all shortwave broadcasts be on a contract basis, Ball said.

No More Waring in Mich. Juke Boxes

WASHINGTON, June 19.—Fred Waring recordings have been removed from all juke-boxes in Michigan, Irving B. Ackerman, counsel of the Michigan Automatic Phonograph Operators Association, has informed a House subcommittee. The action was taken after Waring told the MAPOA that he thought juke-boxes hurt his business.

The subcommittee is hearing testimony on bills to allow artists to copyright recordings and to grant artists and composers royalties on juke-box playings.

Other witnesses were John Schulman of the Songwriters' Protective Association, who opposed the former bill and favored the latter, and Morris Bristol, vice-president of Wurlitzer Co., who opposed both bills. The subcommittee hopes to finish Monday, when Maurice Speiser, of the National Association of Performing Artists, and Ascap counsel Louis Frohlich are scheduled to testify.

'Vet' Agency Protest Bans Open-Air House

WASHINGTON, June 19. — Plans to build an open-air theatre near the Altoona, Pa., veterans hospital have been abandoned, Rep. James Van Zandt of Pennsylvania said today. The Veterans Administration objected to a commercial theatre on the site, according to Van Zandt.

Blatt Brothers of Pittsburgh, who proposed the project, are shopping for another location.

Sewten Gets New Post

DENVER, June 19.—Robert Sewten, Gibralter Enterprises', Denver booker, has been named general manager of Tom Murphy Theatres in Raton, N. M.; Clayton, N. M.; Alamosa, Colo., and Del Norte, Colo.

Question Traveling Expenses of Board

Toronto, June 19.—Members of the Canadian Parliament and some private citizens are asking why 310 employes and executives of the Canadian Film Board spent $365,000 in "traveling expenses" in a year. Actually, the amount may be higher, since the total mentioned does not include traveling disbursements under $300.

Warner, Paramount Salaries Reported

PHILADELPHIA, June 19. — Joan Crawford was paid $400,000 by Warner Brothers last year, while Bob Hope got $275,000 and Bing Crosby received $250,300 from Paramount Pictures, the companies' annual reports to the Securities and Exchange Commission disclosed today.

All salaries and commissions reported to the SEC are gross figures before Federal or state income taxes. The Federal tax alone runs about 50 per cent on a $100,000 salary, scaling up to 68 per cent on a $500,000 salary.

Ray Milland, star of "Lost Weekend," received $234,166 from Paramount.

Warner Brothers paid Stanley Morner — actor Dennis Morgan — $261,000, while director Michael Curtiz was paid $258,600 during 1946. In 1945, Charles Boyer was the top-salaried Warner star at $207,500.

Dinner for Weems on 40th Anniversary

BALTIMORE, June 19. — Exhibitors here will honor Nick O. D. Weems at a testimonial dinner on June 30 to mark his 40 years in show business. Until recently he was Baltimore representative for Columbia films.

Frank Durkee is chairman of a committee which includes Rodney Collier, Fred Schmuff, Sam Taber, Isador M. Rappaport and Roger Pippen. The dinner is to be held at the Variety Club.

Senate Passes Bill Freeing Construction

WASHINGTON, June 19.—The Senate today passed and sent to the White House the conference version of a bill ending all curbs on commercial construction with the single exception that the housing expediter can require permits for amusement construction if he finds a building material shortage exists. Senate action was by a voice vote. The House passed the conference bill Tuesday.

Appeal AAA Award

BOSTON, June 19. — New England Theatres and Publix-Natoco, intervenors, have filed notice of appeal of the arbitration award favoring Anchor Theatres, Kennebunk, Me., in the latter's clearance complaint against the five major companies. New England operates the Central and City Opera House, at Bitteford, Me., and Publix-Natoco operates the State in Portland.

Fabian Will Resume Circuit Conventions

Inaugural convention of Fabian Theatres Corp., plans for which were promulgated by Si Fabian and Sam Rosen, has been set for July 15-17. The meetings will include a two-day business session at the Astor Hotel, New York, on July 15-16, and will conclude with a golf tournament and party at the Preakness Hills Country Club, Wayne, N. J., on the 17th.

Attending the business sessions which will be the first general business meeting for the circuit since before the war, will be all home office employes, district managers, regional publicity representatives, city managers and theatre managers.

The agenda will include all categories of circuit and theatre operational problems, covering real estate, booking, advertising, administration, service insurance, accident prevention, concessions, maintenance, cooling, lighting, and projection. Special emphasis will be placed on public relations, community activity, legal problems and labor relations. Television as a problem, and as a theatre opportunity of the future, will receive special attention.

The sessions will be conducted in panel discussion and open forum style. Fabian and Sam Rosen will deliver key addresses at the opening of the convention to serve as background for the study and discussions which will occupy the two days.

The golf tournament will be attended by all delegates and by many from the industry at large.

Bernard and Cox Named PRC Salesmen

Two more salesmen have been added to the field force of Producers Releasing Corp., A. J. Bernard who has been added to the New Orleans branch under manager Milton Dureau, and Robert Guy Cox who has joined the Dallas branch under manager Russell Brown. Both are Army veterans.

'Nanook' to UA Abroad

Robert J. Flaherty's "Nanook of the North," originally released in 1928, has been acquired by United Artists for distribution abroad, it was announced here yesterday by Walter Gould, foreign manager. The 1947 edition of "Nanook," produced by Herbert Edwards, is said to be identical with the original version, the only addition being a commentary, plus original music by Rudolf Schramm. U.A. will distribute the new edition in English, Spanish and Portuguese versions.

Stanford Joins Willard Co.

D. K. Stanford, who resigned recently from Eagle-Lion Studios in Hollywood, has joined Willard Pictures, producers of advertising and industrial films, here, as special account representative, T. W. Willard, president, has announced.

Universal Sets Dividend

The board of directors of Universal Pictures, Inc., yesterday declared a regular quarterly dividend of 50 cents a share on common stock, payable July 31, to stockholders of record on July 15.

THE GREATEST

WAITING

*"APPROXIMATELY 37 MILLION MOVIEGOER

. . . . ATTENDANCE AND MONEY RECORD

NEW YORK	31st Week*	LOS ANGELES	45 Weeks
MINNEAPOLIS	8 Weeks	PITTSBURGH	9 Weeks
OAKLAND	10 Weeks	MIAMI BEACH	16 Weeks
MONTREAL	12th Week*	SEATTLE	7 Weeks
ROCHESTER	6 Weeks	TAMPA	6 Weeks
COLORADO SPRINGS	2 Weeks	DALLAS	4 Weeks
LONG BEACH	8 Weeks	CHAMPAIGN	4 Weeks
PHOENIX	4 Weeks	NEW ORLEANS	5 Weeks
DETROIT	12th Week*	DES MOINES	4 Weeks
DAYTON	3 Weeks	MEMPHIS	4 Weeks
WINNIPEG	3 Weeks	SACRAMENTO	4 Weeks

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S "THE BEST YEARS

THE BEST THING THAT EVER

AUDIENCE*

IN HISTORY!

WILL SEE 'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'"

—Dr. Gallup's Audience Research, Inc.

BROKEN EVERY DAY at ROADSHOW PRICES!

CHICAGO	25 Weeks	BOSTON	24 Weeks
WASHINGTON	8 Weeks	DENVER	8 Weeks
SAN DIEGO	7 Weeks	PROVIDENCE	5 Weeks
BALTIMORE	7 Weeks	SAN FRANCISCO	8 Weeks
LONG BEACH	8 Weeks	PHILADELPHIA	20th Week*
ST. LOUIS	6 Weeks	TUCSON	3 Weeks
SPRINGFIELD	4 Weeks	SALT LAKE CITY	3 Weeks
CINCINNATI	7 Weeks	PORTLAND	5 Weeks
RICHMOND	4 Weeks	CLEVELAND	16 Weeks
TOLEDO	5 Weeks	KANSAS CITY	4 Weeks
FRESNO	5 Weeks	JACKSONVILLE	6 Weeks

*CURRENT

OF OUR LIVES" Directed by WILLIAM WYLER

HAPPENED AT THE BOXOFFICE!

To be released by RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

Sen. White Warns of Stricter Radio Rules

WASHINGTON, June 19.—Sen. White today warned radio broadcasters that unless they are willing to "give some support to the efforts of Congress to place some control in law, the day is coming when rules will be much stricter."

White made his remarks during the course of hearings on a bill to reorganize the Federal Communications Commission, in answer to a demand by representatives of the National Association of Broadcasters that the commission be barred from regulating program content. White warned the NAB witnesses that unless they changed their attitude, someday there would be "a regulatory power that will tell you how to run your witnesses."

NAB representatives included: Frank E. Pellegrin, director of NAB's department of broadcast of advertising; J. Harold Ryan, vice-president and treasurer of the Fort Industry Co.; Robert K. Richards, NAB director of public relations; Paul W. Morency, vice-president of the Travelers Service Broadcasting Corp., and Campbell Arnoux, president and general manager of WTAR in Norfolk.

Mark Woods, president of the American Broadcasting Corp., also urged the committee to refrain from establishing detailed rules governing the business conduct of radio licenses and the programs they broadcast.

Dumont and NBC Ask For Video Licenses

WASHINGTON, June 19.—The FCC has announced its final order granting construction permits for 10 class B FM stations in Chicago, one of which was given to Balaban and Katz.

The Commission also announced that NBC had applied for a license to cover a construction permit for a new commercial television station in New York.

Allen B. DuMont Laboratories have applied for similar licenses to cover new experimental television relay broadcast stations in the areas of Washington and New York.

DeVry Official Abroad

CHICAGO, June 19.—Norman D. Olson, Sr., export manager for the DeVry Corp., has left the U. S. for a 'round-the-world goodwill sales trip. Olsen will visit DeVry distributors in Hawaii, China, India, Iran, Turkey, Palestine, Syria, Egypt, Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Eire. He is expected to return to this country late in July.

'Crossfire' Tradeshow

RKO Radio will hold an exhibitor trade showing of "Crossfire" at the Normandie Theatre, New York, Tuesday morning.

Review

"Dear Murderer"

(Gainsborough-GFD—British)

London.

LIKE "Hamlet," the screen at the end of this one seems cluttered up with corpses, but there the resemblance ends, for "Dear Murderer" is a slick, subtle and sly spine-chiller warranted to keep customers of all categories fast to their seats until the ultimate second of its suspenseful action. It is not only suspenseful, for dramatist Legh Clowes, from whose stage-play the piece has been adapted, cunningly contrives to sprinkle the tension with a considerable ration of laughs. Moreover, the action in the main takes place in surroundings of elegance and concerns quite elegant persons, thereby justifying Miss Gynt—the lady takes immense steps forward in every part she plays—in sporting some very lovely dresses. So what more does the client—particularly the feminine client—want?

Eric Portman—the "dear murderer"—plans and performs what he believes to be the perfect crime. He discovers his wife, Miss Gynt, to be a faithless hussy and plans to murder her lover in circumstances which point unmistakably to suicide. But there is a complication, for, at the moment of the slaying, Portman discovers that his victim is just one of a string of paramours with whom his beautiful but naughty wife has dallied. So he switches the plan to make it appear that Lover No. 2 had killed Lover No. 1. Scotland Yard falls for that one and charges the forlorn young man with murder.

En route to the gallows and practically on the steps thereof, the young man is saved through the sinister activities of Miss Gynt who poisons Portman (after he has duly confessed) and who then herself is haled off to the lock-up.

It appears to be a murky melange of murder, but the piece is nothing of the sort. Killer Portman puts across a masterly study of the husband driven in a dementia of jealousy and hate to vengeance. Miss Gynt—there are those who say she'd rate an Oscar if she made the journey to Hollywood—contrives a sulky, disconcerting wickedness of allure. The Gynt facade of disturbing loveliness is indeed one of the current bright assets of Britain's pictures. There is also a pleasing contribution from Jack Warner as the man from Scotland Yard.

But chief credit for the picture's success must go to director Arthur Crabtree (he works with the surest hand) and producer Betty Box.

Miss Box—sister of "Seventh Veil" Sydney—is this country's only woman producer. "Dear Murderer" is her first essay in the field. More of that caliber from her will be more than welcome. It is a modest, competent, pleasing picture which will play to pleasant profit in Britain; would survive, moreover, the Atlantic crossing.

Running time, 94 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

PETER BURNUP

Smith Luncheon

(Continued from page 1)

Smith, Jr., William C. Gehring and Ray Moon of 20th Century-Fox at the Hotel Astor today. Some 400 from the industry are expected to be in attendance.

Others invited to the dais are: A. J. Balaban, Joseph Bernhard, A. H. Blank, Charles Boasberg, Harry Brandt, Leo Brecher, Max Cohen, Jack Cohn, Frank Damas, Irving Dollinger, Oscar Doob, Seymour Florin, Julius Joelson, Harry Kalmine, Edward Lachman, Peter Levathes, Arthur Mayer, William Michel, Robert Mochrie, Lucy Monroe, Martin Moskowitz, John O'Connor, Ted O'Shea, Walter Reade, Jr., Sam Rinzler, Sam Rosen, Edward Rugoff, James Sauter, Charles Schlaifer, Fred Schwartz, Sol Schwartz, Sam Shain, George Skouras, Rodney H. Smith, David Weinstock, Edwin L. Weisl, Robert M. Weitman and William White.

Smith, Gehring and Moon will be feted in tribute to their recent promotions to general sales manager, assistant general sales manager, and Yankee division sales manager of 20th-Fox, respectively.

Enterprise Meet

(Continued from page 1)

ity of the contemplated films. This list includes Libby Block's "Wild Calendar," starring Ginger Rogers and produced by Wolfgang Reinhardt; Lionel Feuchtwanger's forthcoming "Proud Destiny," to be produced and directed by Lewis Milestone; Nancy Mitford's novel, "Pursuit of Love," to be produced by David Lewis; Bulwer-Lytton's, "The Passion of Eugene Aram," and "Cairo Incident," to be produced by Reinhardt.

George Schaefer, vice-president in charge of distribution, will arrive here from New York, accompanied by Fred Polangin, Enterprise Eastern publicity director. It is expected that E. J. Churchill of Donahue and Coe, Enterprise advertising agency, will attend along with several members of his staff. Walter Blake, account executive, is already at the Enterprise Studios.

Executive personnel of Enterprise, including chairman of the board David L. Loew, president Charles Einfeld and Schaefer will conduct the meetings. Also in attendance will be Joseph C. Gilpin, Robert Taplinger, Bill Blowitz, David Hopkins and Colin Miller.

Ad Film Companies Deny FTC Charges

WASHINGTON, June 19.—Two of the four advertising film producers and distributors charged by the Federal Trade Commission with restraint of trade and creation of a monopoly have filed answers denying their guilt, the Commission announced here today.

United Film Service, Kansas City, and Motion Picture Advertising Service Co., New Orleans, stated their contracts are "legal in all respects" and that they have exclusive screening agreements with only a "small percentage" of the theatres in the country.

Both companies maintained that the legality of their contracts had been established in a former FTC decision on Screen Broadcast Corp. FTC spokesmen, however, said that the Screen Broadcast decision was based on charges of conspiracy and would not be applicable in the present complaint.

Two other companies named in the FTC complaint, Ray-Bell Films, St. Paul, and Alexander Film Co., Colorado Springs, have not yet filed their answer.

Branford Promoted By MGM in Chicago

Walter Branford, M-G-M branch manager in Chicago since 1938, has been promoted to district manager there, by William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president.

Other promotions were: William Devaney, assistant branch manager in Chicago, promoted to manager, and Samuel Shirley, district manager, who has been given a special assignment, following which he will be attached to the home office sales staff.

Shirley will leave shortly for Hawaii to make a special survey, similar to one he made there a number of years ago for the company.

Kerer to Distribute

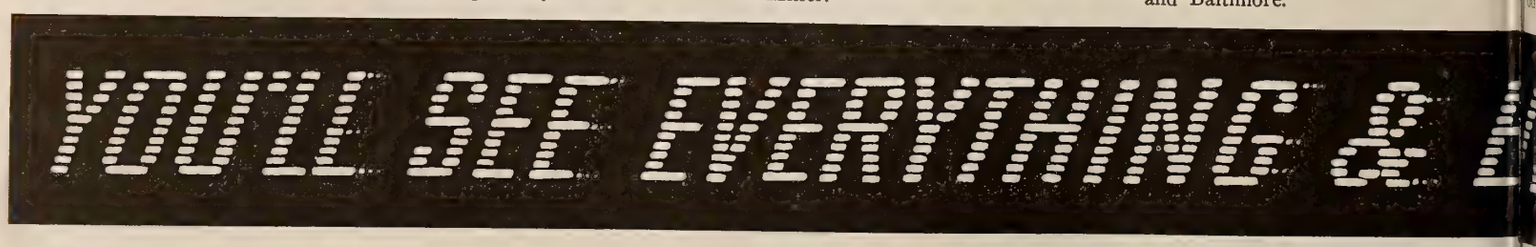
SALT LAKE CITY, June 19.—Harry Kerer, former distributor for various channels here, has returned as distributor for Premier Films, with offices currently in with Associated Films offices.

Holds Benefit Show

SAN FRANCISCO, June 19.—A benefit show, in cooperation with the Disabled American Veterans, by Blumenfeld Theatres this week prevented foreclosure on the Fresno ranch of a blind ex-marine with seven children.

Bilgrey in New Post

Felix Bilgrey has been appointed general manager of Laffmovie, and has also taken over booking for Laffmovie theatres in New York, Boston and Baltimore.



Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

SAN FRANCISCO

warehousemen's strike, the trans-bay train strike, plus very hot weather, combined to bring down the grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 20:

BETTY CO-ED (Col.) — GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00). With vaudeville. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $23,000)
CHEYENNE (WB) and I COVER BIG TOWN (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $20,000)
COPACABANA (UA) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.) — ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,000)
DEAR RUTH (Para.) — ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $18,000)
EGG AND I (U-I) — ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 3rd week on a moveover. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $18,000)
HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M) and MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M)—FOX (4,651) (65c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $23,000)
IT HAPPENED ON 5TH AVENUE (Allied Artists-Mono.) and FALL GUY (Mono.) — WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $19,500)
IT HAPPENED ON 5TH AVENUE (Allied Artists-Mono.) and FALL GUY (Mono.) — UNITED NATIONS (1,129) (55c-85c). Gross: $4,400. (Average: $6,000)
NEW ORLEANS (UA) and THE DEVIL ON WHEELS (PRC)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,000)

CLEVELAND

"Duel in the Sun" broke all records, including that established by "Gone with the Wind," at the Stillman in its opening four days at roadshow prices. "The Egg and I," in its fifth week at the Allen, continues strong. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 17-18:

CALCUTTA (Para.) — LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c) 2nd week on a move-over. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,000)
CHEYENNE (WB) — WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c). Gross: $19,500. (Average: $18,400)
COPACABANA (UA) — LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $22,000)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO) — LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $38,000. (Average at regular prices: $11,000)
EGG AND I (U-I)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c) 5th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,000)
HONEYMOON (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $21,400)
TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 3rd week—2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $3,300. (Average: $3,600)

OMAHA

Rains let up a bit giving a general rise to box office grosses here. Three out of four first-run houses bested par. Estimated receipts for week ended June 18-19:

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO) — OMAHA (2,000) (Advanced prices: 74c-$1.20). Gross: $10,400. (Average at regular prices: $8,500)
HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox) — PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c). Gross: $9,600. (Average: $10,600)
THE SEA HAWK (WB) and THE SEA WOLF (WB) — RKO BRANDEIS (1,100) (50c-65c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,600)
SWELL GUY (U-I)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (55c-80c). Dezi Arnaz on stage. Gross: $24,400. (Average: $19,800)

DENVER

Business was uneven. Fine weather attracted outdoor crowds. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 19:

CAPTAIN CAUTION (Favorite Films) and CAPTAIN FURY (Favorite Films) — RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,000)
DEAR RUTH (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000)
EGG AND I (U-I)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 3rd week, day-date with the Paramount. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000)
EGG AND I (U-I)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 3rd week, day-date with Esquire. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,000)
HONEYMOON (RKO Radio) and DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,200) (35c-74c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,500)
LITTLE MISTER JIM (M-G-M) and BOOM TOWN (M-G-M) — BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,000)
STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,000)
THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB) and BUFFALO BILL RIDES AGAIN (SG) — TABOR (1,967) (35c-74c). Gross: $3,000. (Average: $8,000)
TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox) — DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c). Day-date with the Webber. Gross: $16,000. (Average $15,000)
TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c). Day-date with the Denver. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $2,000)

'U' Loses Keiths; Seeks Other Houses

Universal will continue efforts to acquire a line-up of "show cases" across the country, a company spokesman said here yesterday. He called the cancellation of Universal's lease on Keith's Theatre in Cincinnati by the City Investing Co. of New York "something we did not like."

Keith's was taken over last year by Universal as the first of a planned circuit in key cities. City Investing reportedly will operate Keith's itself through its subsidiary, Cincinnati Playhouses.

MGM Schedules New Short Subject Series

HOLLYWOOD, June 19.—M-G-M will produce a series of six short subjects presenting "name" bands through "disc-jockey" format, it was disclosed here today by Fred Quimby, short subjects chief.

23% Tax on Tickets In Atlantic City

Atlantic City, June 19. — With the resort's new municipal improvement tax in force, motion picture houses here are collecting a three per cent tax on all admissions in addition to the 20 per cent Federal tax. Steel Pier, with two motion picture houses, has absorbed the tax in its general admission but other theatres have passed it on to the customers.

The tax will be collected until the New Jersey Supreme Court rules on its legality, following its attack by resort citizens.

ATA Tax Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

Knutson, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, the latter suggested that the proposals on taxation adjustments be presented to him at the earliest, with specific mention of the amount of revenue from film theatres the Government could figure on in the event the proposals are acceptable.

Coyne said that he will go over the brief with both the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association and it is likely all three groups will recommend the tax cuts on a joint basis. The brief will be forwarded to Knutson next week.

The proposals will be in the form of a brief setting forth as "reasonable" the entire elimination of tax on tickets for children of 12 years of age and under and a reduction of the present 20 per cent tax to 10 per cent.

While the proposals would mean a tax reduction of more than half of the present level on a percentage basis, adoption of them would result in gains in theatre attendance, Coyne said in explaining his estimate that the Government would lose only 35 per cent in revenue.

Mayor Opposes New Levies in Albany

ALBANY, N. Y., June 19.—Mayor Erastus Corning of Albany today reiterated his opposition to levying any "nuisance taxes," including a five per cent tax on admissions, authorized by the Burney bill, unless, he added, it is absolutely necessary to meet the salary increases for teachers. Under the Burney law, counties and cities of 100,000 population or more will be permitted to impose emergency taxes for general purposes after July 1.

The increases for teachers, which are covered by the Burney bill, will cost Albany an estimated $35,000 during the first year, and possibly $250,000 in the second year.

MGM, Para. To Sign 'IA' Office Contracts

Contracts covering 150 employes of M-G-M's News-of-the-Day, Robbins, Feist and Miller, M-G-M music publishing subsidiary, and Paramount News will be signed today by the firms and Motion Picture Home Office Employes Local No. H-63, IATSE.

Wage increases ranging from 11 to 20 per cent were incorporated in the contracts, all of which are new agreements. The Paramount increases are retroactive to Dec. 1, 1946, and News-of-the-Day and Robbins, Feist and Miller, retroactive to March 1. The contracts will run for one year, and provide for full union shops.

Pathe Strike

(*Continued from page* 1)

technicians who are members of Local No. 702, also IATSE, probably would not cross any picket line maintained by affiliated union members. The laboratories service Pathe, Eagle-Lion and the Universal newsreel.

Local No. H-63, according to a union spokesman, had organized the office employes at the two laboratories in March, and had negotiated for a contract with the firm at three meetings. The union spokesman declared that 11 days ago, a telephone call from the company attorney handling the negotiation suddenly terminated any additional meetings and suggested that the union go through National Labor Relations Board procedure for certification and other matters.

The union spokesman made it clear that he regarded the termination as "a breach of faith," and that this had prompted the decision to place a strike call before 'IA' headquarters. Decision now rests with Shea whether to approve the request or to intervene in an effort to settle the dispute amicably.

Seward Benjamin, attorney for the firm, declined to comment.

Legion Rates Twelve Additional Pictures

Six of 12 features reviewed by the National Legion of Decency have been rated A-I; they are: "Buffalo Bill Rides Again," Screen Guild; "Fiesta," M-G-M; "Perils of Pauline" and "Welcome Stranger," both Paramount; "Sport of Kings," Columbia, and "The Vigilantes Return," Universal-International.

Placed in Class A-II were: "Dear Ruth," Paramount; "The Long Night" and "Riff Raff," RKO Radio; "Philo Vance's Gamble," PRC, and "Santa Fe Saddlemates," Republic. PRC's "Stepchild" was placed in Class B.

Buys Vermont Theatre

HARTFORD, June 19.—Jack Stoops, former projectionist, has purchased the Arlington Theatre, East Arlington, Vt., from Joseph Ward Bird. Bird still owns the Modern and Colonial at Manchester Depot, Vt.

EVERYONE IN VARIETY GIRL...

Johnston

(*Continued from page* 1)

viser, accompanying the MPA president. They are due back in New York on July 26.

Edward J. Cheyfitz, another Johnston aide, originally scheduled to go on the trip, will go instead to Hollywood to supervise production of the MPA-industry short subjects.

"Difficulties of the U. S. film industry abroad are closely tied up with the precarious European economic situation," Mayer declares, adding: "The broad program outlined by Secretary Marshall (for European economic rehabilitation) would benefit us as it would other American industries."

Due in Paris Monday

According to plans as of yesterday, Johnston's party will arrive in Paris on Monday and in Brussels on Tuesday. That evening he will attend a dinner to be given by the Prince Regent for persons conected with the current Brussels Film Festival. On Wednesday he will conduct a press conference, while on Thursday the MPA head will speak at a luncheon to be tendered by the Belgian-American Society and the MPA for the Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs, cabinet officials and heads of diplomatic missions On Friday the MPA will be host to exhibitors at a reception and the following day Johnston will be feted either at a luncheon to be given by U. S. Ambassador Kirk—if Kirk has returned to Belgium from the U. S. by that time—or at a reception by the U. S. Charge d'Affaires. The Johnston group will leave for The Hague Sunday. Later discussions will center around the necessity for the elimination of the 28-week quota on U. S. films now in effect in that country.

In Denmark, Johnston will seek the elimination of the discriminatory 10 per cent tax on remittable funds which is levelled on top of all other taxes. In Sweden, the MPA head intends to survey that country's labor legislation. The industry's problem, which arose when the Swedes suddenly stopped remittances on the grounds that their gold supply was running low, also will be discussed.

(Editor's Note: See Washington dispatch headlined: "Swedish Dollars for U. S. Film Imports," appearing elsewhere on this page.)

Norway Contract Renewal

In Norway, the industry's annual contract is due to expire Sept. 1 and Johnston will take up its renewal. Only a portion of the money earned by American films there is remittable.

The reasons for Johnston's trip to Warsaw are not clear. This is Export Association territory and U. S. films are now showing there and it is said that the MPA head will go to Poland "to get a balanced picture."

The Johnston group will go to Prague from Warsaw. That Czechoslovakian capital was added to the itinerary yesterday. MPA officials report that because of his interest in the achievements of the MPEA in Czechoslovakia, Johnston desires to examine the situation at first-hand.

The party's Berlin visit will be given over largely to talks with Army officials.

Johnston's visit to France will be routine, while in London he will repeat his efforts to have the present British quota extended.

Dollars in Sweden for U. S. Film Imports

WASHINGTON, June 19.—Under recently - concluded trade negotiations, Sweden must make dollar currency available for current U. S. film imports, according to George S. Canty, State Department adviser on films.

Industry representatives (MPA's Eric Johnston, et al.) are expected to meet soon in Stockholm with delegates from the Swedish government, Canty said, in an effort to implement the terms of the agreement.

Because the current film provision would automatically limit sharply the number of films imported into the country—due to the dollar scarcity in Sweden—motion picture company representatives are expected to ask for a restriction on dollar transfer, rather than a restriction on imports.

The trade feels, Canty reports, that any restriction on transfers would be temporary, whereas restrictions on imports have a tendency to be long-lasting. Canty also pointed out that for purposes of world precedent, motion picture companies feel that restricted dollar transfer is better than a restriction on imports since the Swedes, also, would prefer a free flow of American films. Canty indicated that the State Department would approve any agreement reached in Stockholm which would tend to avoid import restrictions.

UA Presidency

(*Continued from page* 1)

decision would be harmful to the company.

Fabian's revised offer to Miss Pickford, details of which were not divulged, would not mean immediate closing of a deal, it was pointed out, but merely further negotiations of unpredictable duration. This would be exactly counter to the views of most directors on the best interests of the company, and conceivably could entail lengthy subsequent negotiations with Miss Pickford's co-owner of U.A., Charles Chaplin.

One the other hand, a decision by her in favor of Connors, former director of 20th Century-Fox and vice-president in charge of distribution, would resolve company management immediately and would be in line with the majority of U.A.'s advisers' views.

For those reasons, responsible parties close to the situation were of the opinion last night that Miss Pickford will decide for Connors today and that he will be elected to the company presidency formally at a meeting of the board early next week.

Miss Pickford is scheduled to leave for the Coast tomorrow night or Sunday.

Charles Schwartz, counsel and U.A. board representative for Chaplin, returned from a Lake Placid vacation to attend yesterday's board meeting. Officially, neither Connors' appointment nor the revised Fabian bid was placed before the meeting.

Republic Business Up

(*Continued from page* 1)

Prairie, also attended the sessions. Special emphasis was placed on the screening and sales promotion of Republic's "That's My Man" and "Northwest Outpost." The scheduling of a regional sales meeting for the middle of August was also announced.

Asks 'Duel' Ban

(*Continued from page* 1)

"filthy, debasing and insulting to the instincts of decent humanity," and calling on the District police to close the Palace Theatre, where the film has been showing, and "prevent the further showing of this vicious film in the Palace Theatre or any other theatre in the District of Columbia." He asked for immediate House consideration.

"Duel" left the Palace last night, and according to S.R.O. folk here, will not be seen in neighborhood theatres for the usual three to four weeks.

Former Speaker Rayburn of Texas chimed in with the observation that "every Texan who has seen it considers it a slander on the fair name of Texas."

Rep. Celler of New York objected to immediate consideration of the bill on the House floor, and said he "deplored the gentleman's self-constituted role of censor." He charged Rankin spoke from reports on the film rather than personal knowledge, and said he presumed Rankin is going to act as censor over Shakespeare, Congreve, and Pryor, who are probably no worse or no better as to bawdy or immoral connotations than "Duel in the Sun."

Rep. O'Toole of New York interjected that Rankin "has given the picture $100,000 in free publicity," and said millions of church-going people in New York had quietly boycotted the film.

Finally, Rankin consented to have his resolution subjected to the normal procedure of being referred to a committee and it was referred to the House District committee, whose chairman, Rep. Dirksen, promised prompt action.

MPTOA Asks Drive

(*Continued from page* 1)

has been necessary to have well organized, representative and militant exhibitor associations. Yet there are still thousands of theatre owners who do not belong to any association. There is, of course, no way of compelling a man to join an association but there can be a campaign of education undertaken, and I feel that there should be.

"The decision as to which association to join rests with the individual. But that he must join and that he owes it to the industry and himself to join can and should be brought home to him," Wehrenberg continues. "The task is a personal one and must be undertaken by the theatre owner who already belongs to an association.

"We should like to see such a membership campaign get under way immediately. The future will require more and more effort, energy and cooperation from trade associations."

The MPTOA bulletin urges members to cooperate fully with the national tour of the Freedom Train, which is sponsored by the Attorney General and will be the means of exhibiting historic American documents in 200 cities around the country.

Army Ends Showing Of Films on Axis

The Army is no longer showing films like "Our Enemy—Japan," "Your Job in Germany" and others, including "Nature of the Enemy—Lublin," "Death Factory," "Guilty Men," "Here Is Germany," "Death Mills," and "German Concentration Camp Atrocities."

'Duel's' 8,000 Dates

(*Continued from page* 1)

believes, thus eliminating any possibility that they might be interrupted by a decision from the U. S. Supreme Court in the industry anti-trust suit appeal barring road showings. The court's decision is not anticipated before next year.

Agnew reported that the demand for "Duel" in small towns is exceptionally strong. Its business in su situations is four times that of "Spe bound," he said, and bookings are limited now only by the number of prints on hand. He said that the Midwest, the Rocky Mountain area and Canada are still untapped by "Duel."

'Multiple-run' Plan

The SRO head attributed the small town demand for "Duel" to the success of the multiple-run, block release plan inaugurated for the picture. That plan permitted intensive regional and local advertising, rather than national, which penetrated deeply into individual territories.

"Neither multiple runs nor advanced admissions are new to the industry," Agnew said, "but I believe the two together are. I want to try the same method again if the right picture comes along."

Agnew added, however, that if the policy becomes common in the industry he "will find something else."

Multiple-runs for "Duel" have also been set in Mexico City and are planned for the picture in London, Paris and elsewhere abroad.

The number of bookings coming in for "Duel" may make it necessary for SRO to do a mail order business, in the event its limited sales organization is over-taxed, Agnew said. Despite this, SRO will take on a limited number of pictures from outside producers if the product measures up to standards the company sets, he said. SRO's own releases will be spaced three or four months apart. The company has "The Paradine Case" coming up, to be followed by "Portrait of Jennie."

Cites NFS Performance

Agnew paid tribute to the physical distribution performance of the new National Film Service, headed by James Clark. It has been "flawless to date," he said, and asserted that SRO's distribution costs have been no more under the new system than they would have been if it were releasing through a major company.

Agnew, who will leave for the Coast on June 30 for a four weeks stay, was host at a luncheon for trade press representatives at "21" here yesterday. Daniel T. O'Shea, Milt Kusell, Paul MacNamara, Robert Gillham, Stanley Kramer, Laudy Lawrence and Nick Mamula, all of SRO-Vanguard, were among those present.

20th Gets Stay

(*Continued from page* 1)

sion prices. On the second count, the company cannot be held in contempt of court as a result of what the New York court termed "arbitrary refusal" of a reasonable run demand of an exhibitor.

Smith said a decision to roadshow two new pictures, "Forever Amber" and "Captain from Castile," prompted the move for the stays.

DO NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

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28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK,
N. Y. (3 COPIES)

VOL. 61. NO. 121 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, JUNE 23, 1947 TEN CENTS

More Benefits To Industry in Air Rate Cuts

20% Reduction by 18 Air Freighters Aug. 1

WASHINGTON, June 22. — All major scheduled air cargo carriers are expected to follow the pattern set by American and United airlines in reducing cargo rates approximately 20 per cent, effective Aug. 1, according to officials of Air Cargo, Inc.

The film industry and the equipment field stand to benefit considerably from the reductions, because they are big air freight customers.

They said that they expected close to 18 lines to file a reduced consolidated tariff schedule with the Civil Aeronautics Board as soon as pos-

(*Continued on page* 8)

$3,000,000 'U' Reissue Deal

Universal Pictures has leased reissue rights for 10 years to virtually all of its feature films it released during the 10-year period between 1933-34 and including 1942-43 to Harris-Broder Pictures Corp. for a sum in excess of $3,000,000, plus a participation in the proceeds of distribution, Matthew Fox, Universal executive vice-president, announced here on Friday. It is understood that some 400 productions are involved.

Under certain conditions, the programs will also be made available at a date beyond 1957.

Harris-Broder will distribute the

(*Continued on page* 8)

Switch Mono. Sales Meet to Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY, June 22.—Monogram Pictures Corp. will hold its national sales convention here from July 17-21, Gov. Roy J. Turner disclosed here yesterday. He said he had been advised by Steve Broidy, Monogram-Allied Artists president that the meeting, originally scheduled for Milwaukee, has been moved here in order to coincide with the premiere of "Black Gold" on July 16.

Congress Wants the Theatre Curb to Stay, Say Officials

WASHINGTON, June 22.—Government housing officials consider it the clear intent of Congress that they continue to curb theatre construction under the newly passed rent bill.

No final decision has been made by the housing office, which admits that with all other bars down on commercial construction, "it isn't worth the effort" to restrain theatre construction. However, they say, it's what Congress wants, and they're around to carry out the will of Congress. Permits for new theatres have been issued in some cases in recent months.

The bill says the housing expediter may require a permit for amusement or recreational construction if he determines a shortage of building materials exists, as previously reported. Housing officials declare that there is no doubt there still is a shortage, and that the congressional "may" really means "must."

Theatres are restricted, they add, and there are still many questions to be worked out: What form does the permit take; criteria for hardship cases or construction having negligible impact on housing, and what to do about "scrambled facilities"—where someone wants to build an office building with a theatre in it or an apartment with theatre attached.

Pickford Decision On U. A. Delayed

The new management-or-sale alternative confronting United Artists, which Mary Pickford assured reporters last week would be settled by last Saturday at the latest, still persists and is being carried over into this week.

After all-day conferences with her attorney and U.A. board representative, Arnold Grant, on Friday, Miss

(*Continued on page* 8)

Censorship Threat From House Group

WASHINGTON, June 22.—The threat of motion picture censorship was introduced in the nation's capital Friday.

Members of the House District commmittee attacked "filthy and obscene pictures" recently produced by Hollywood, and named Chairman Dirksen a committee of one to investigate the situation and make recommendations.

Dirksen later stated he would seek

(*Continued on page* 8)

Britons See Clayton Aiding Film Problem

London, June 22.—Film men here welcome the appointment of William Clayton as President Truman's British trade envoy, and look forward to his arrival and to the talks which, they hope, will set at rest once and for all the thorny problems in the Anglo-American motion picture situation.

The explosive discussion which occurred on the subject at the recent Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association Eastbourne conference assuredly cleared the air. But, say exhibitors at least: There's a lot of air-clearing still to be done.

Strike Threatens US Firms in France

By MAURICE BESSY

PARIS, June 18.—A strike trend has started in the French film business, with the various executive offices and exchanges of M-G-M already affected. "Agitation" has started at Columbia's branches and a threat stands over the French offices of other American companies. M-G-M's is a "stay-in" strike.

The complaint in all cases is that wages paid by American companies are smaller than those paid by French distributing companies.

There is also a threat of a general studio strike, production technicians and workers having asked for a "diligence bonus" which, in effect, is a salary raise.

Balaban, Zukor and Griffis Reelected

Barney Balaban, president, Adolph Zukor, board chairman, Stanton Griffis, chairman of the executive committee, and all other officers of Paramount were reelected by the board of directors at a meeting here on Friday.

Other officers are: Y. Frank Freeman, vice-president at the Coast studio; Henry Ginsberg, vice-president and general manager in charge of studio operations; Leonard H. Goldenson, vice-president in charge of theatres; Austin C. Keough, vice-president and chief counsel; Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of domestic sales; Paul Raibourn, vice-president in

(*Continued on page* 8)

'Lab' Workers Get Million In Wage Rise

Nearly 2,000 Technicians Affected in 18 N. Y. Firms

East Coast laboratory workers received wage increases approximating $1,000,000 annually and also will receive more than $250,000 in retroactive pay as a result of contracts signed at the weekend by laboratory Local No. 702, IATSE, and representatives of some 18 film laboratories. Nearly 2,000 technicians are affected.

The agreement, in negotiation since last January, provides increases ranging between $6 and $22 weekly for experienced employes, with a majority receiving between $9 and $14. Previously-existing night-shift premium inequities, according to a union spokesman, have been adjusted by raising the premium from seven per cent to 10 per cent in most cases.

Provisions for a 40-hour week, two weeks' vacation with pay after three

(*Continued on page* 7)

Majors Lose Seattle Suit

SEATTLE, June 22.—A decision in favor of the exhibitor plaintiffs in the anti-trust damage action brought by Theatre Investment Corp. and the Venetian Theatre Co., was handed down at the weekend by Judge John C. Bowen of U. S. District Court here. Defendants were: Columbia, RKO Radio, Warners, Universal, Loew's, Paramount, 20th-Fox, United

(*Continued on page* 8)

Smith Honored at Industry Luncheon

Tribute was paid to Andrew W. Smith Jr., William C. Gehring and Ray Moon, newly-promoted sales executives of 20th Century-Fox, at an exhibitor-sponsored luncheon at the

(*Continued on page* 8)

4 Reviews Today

"Bush Christmas" and "Killer Dill" on page 6. "The Man Within" and "The Great Betrayal," page 8.

Personal Mention

GEORGE WELTNER, Paramount International president, has returned here from the Coast.

•

NATHAN E. GOLDSTEIN, Springfield, Mass., circuit operator, and his wife, accompanied by their daughter, attended the graduation of their son, DAVID, from Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H.

•

EDWARD P. CURTIS, Eastman Kodak executive vice-president, and CHARLES POLETTI, attorney, sailed for Europe Friday on the *SS America*.

•

M. L. SIMONS, assistant to H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations director, is expected back today from San Antonio.

•

ARTHUR SACHSON, Samuel Goldwyn sales manager, is back at his desk in New York after an appendectomy.

•

PAUL H. CRANE, Loew's International export traffic manager, today celebrates his 25th year with Loew's.

•

WILLIAM ORR of Warners' studio talent department, returned to the Coast at the weekend from New York.

•

HUGH OWEN, Paramount Eastern and Southern division sales manager, will leave here tomorrow for Atlanta.

•

CHARLES SCHWARTZ of Schwartz and Frohlich returned to Lake Placid from New York on Friday.

•

SAM MARX, M-G-M producer, his wife and two children are expected here today from the Coast.

•

LAWRENCE TERRELL, Paramount salesman in Charlotte, N. C., became the father of a boy last week.

•

WILLIAM PINE and WILLIAM THOMAS, Paramount producers, are in town from the Coast.

•

SOPHIE ROSENSTEIN of the Warner studio returned to the Coast from New York over the weekend.

•

N. PETER RATHVON, president of RKO, has returned to the Coast from New York.

•

BARNEY GERARD, producer, leaves the West Coast for New York this week.

Ascap Tax Move Off Until Next Month

Further developments in Ascap's proposed increase in the theatre seat tax are not expected to evolve until after the return in mid-July from London of Ascap executives Deems Taylor, Herman Finkelstein, Richard Murray and Rudolph Nissim.

The executives have left New York to attend the International Congress of Performing Rights Societies in London.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

YOU may be wondering why J. Arthur Rank who isn't intrigued at all by New Orleans' air-cooled Roosevelt Bar and its specialty, the Ramos gin fizz, would care enough about visiting that heat-saturated Southern metropolis in July to change both his California departure date and his route of travel in order to appear there.

Here's the explanation which was given this department:

E. V. Richards, head of Paramount-Richards Theatres with headquarters in New Orleans, was just as cold as the next one about giving over the screen time of his important theatres to British pictures, for which there is no apparent demand in the communities he serves.

Richards went to Arrowhead Springs in May and at the Paramount theatre partners' meeting there heard Barney Balaban, Paramount president, state the case for the right of British producers to playing time in American theatres. He was impressed but not convinced.

"Rich" went on from Arrowhead to Hollywood to attend the national convention of Variety Clubs. In Hollywood, his path crossed Rank's on numerous occasions, one of them being a luncheon given by Charlie Skouras for Rank, at which the latter addressed National Theatres and Fox West Coast executives.

•

As a result of that speech and subsequent conversations with Rank, "Rich" became completely convinced of the practicability of, as well as the necessity for, granting British films a fair chance on American screens. And, as many a sales executive can tell you, "Rich" is not an easy man to convince.

Paramount, as you know, cannot tell its theatre associates what to do. It can explain, argue, advise or plead, but it cannot command. "Rich" was fully aware of the antipathy for British pictures among his Paramount associates, particularly those in the South. Most, like himself, were not convinced that they owed anything to British producers and were disinclined to take any action without a mandate first from their box-office customers. That last could be a long time a-coming.

But "Rich" had become so convinced of the business rightness of a fair play for British films, that he wanted Rank to tell his story to as many theatre operators, Paramount or non-Paramount, as could be gathered in New Orleans in mid-summer to listen. Rank agreed.

Now getting the listeners is up to "Rich."

How well he succeeds may be of major importance not only to Rank and other British producers but to the American industry in large. For, if Rank in turn, succeeds in selling that audience he will have cracked what is regarded as the toughest market for British films in the U. S.

• •

The Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners at a meeting in Louisville recently approved "A draft of proposed legislation to create a board composed of the lieutenant governor, attorney general and three exhibitors to be appointed by the governor from a list of 15 exhibitors presented to him by KATO for the purpose of regulating the methods of checking percentage films in Kentucky. The bill provides that the qualifications of checkers and the methods of checking shall be approved by the board and that the expense of operation shall be paid out of the distributors' per cent of the proceeds."

The Kentucky exhibitors should know what they are doing but we hope they will pardon us for having the impression that their proposal is not only a futile one but also tends to discredit some of the principal arguments against checking which have been advanced by exhibitors elsewhere.

Those arguments contend that checkers now employed by Confidential Reports, Inc., are in some instances men who use or impart the information concerning theatre business which they obtain as checkers in such a way as to suggest or encourage new municipal and state taxes and other levies on theatres.

Yet Kentucky exhibitors propose to invite the state government itself to share their business secrets.

Other exhibitors also have charged that CRI's checkers, again in some instances, divulge business secrets to competitors.

Yet Kentucky exhibitors propose to have competitors do the checking of their houses.

And what of your contracts with distributors, gentlemen? If you bar their checkers from your theatres, as you propose, your film supplies can be shut off and not even Kentucky law can turn them on again.

Newsreel Parade

PRESIDENT TRUMAN receiving his degree from Princeton University highlights items in current newsreels. Among other events covered are the world film festival at Brussels, Japanese wrestling, and European girls arriving here to wed ex-G.I. sweethearts. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 85—President Truman honored at bicentennial at Princeton University. European girls arrive to wed ex-servicemen. Midsummer skiing. Sid Malcolm Campbell tests his jet-propelled speedboat. Vienna bike race. America, cradle of liberty, hails the forthcoming Independence Day.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 283—Universal service urged by President Truman. Interview with Henry Wallace on political plans for 1948. Yanks' overseas sweethearts arrive. This year's Miss California. Fastest speedboat afloat. Bicycle race in Vienna. Japanese wrestling.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 86—Inaugurate World Film Festival at Brussels. Capital hears Henry Wallace. Japanese wrestling. Princeton University honors 36 at bicentennial. Mrs. George Zaharias wins British golf championship.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 88—Princeton University honors U. S. leaders. New radar meter. Former Prime Minister Nagy asks aid for Hungary. Katayama is Japan's first Christian Premier. High school students build own cyclotron.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 49 — President Truman urges need for universal training on receiving honorary degree. Pan-American clipper begins passenger global air flight. Fall millinery inspired by Joan Fontaine. Bobby Riggs demonstrates one-man tennis game. Wrestling matches in Tokyo. Cycle classic at Vienna.

Cowdin to Ask for End of Dual-Tax

WASHINGTON, June 22.—Universal Pictures chairman J. Cheever Cowdin is preparing recommendations for Congress looking toward the removal of double taxation on corporate dividends and personal income derived from dividends.

This will be Cowdin's function as a member of the group recently appointed by Rep. Knutson to advise the House Ways and Means Committee on tax revision. Cowdin will also make recommendations on tax matters involved in corporate reorganizations.

Washington economist C. S. Duncan is working with Cowdin on the double taxation proposals. Next meeting of the full group is slated for July 9.

Schenck Purchases 59,676 Loew Shares

Loew's, Inc., has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission a registration statement covering 59,676 common shares balance of the stock purchased from the company by Nicholas M. Schenck, president, under previous stock options. While Schenck states that he has no fixed plan for the sale of these shares, the registration, when effective, permits him to sell all or part of the shares on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange after Aug. 4, if and when he decides to do so.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c

Charlie and Jack are a couple of exhibitors

who run into each other
at 72 exhibitor meetings
each summer—and in
Miami each winter...



...and everytime they meet,
Charlie says to Jack,
"HelloJackwhatsnew?"...



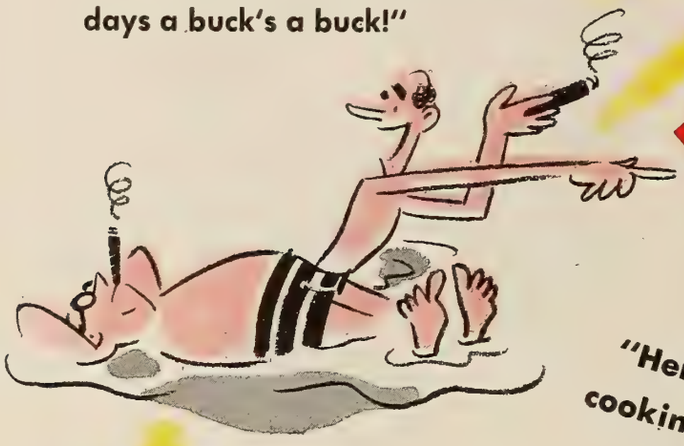
...and Jack says,
"Same old stuff. Some 40%s,
some 30%s, some flat
rentals...some days you
don't make a million!"...

UNTIL TODAY



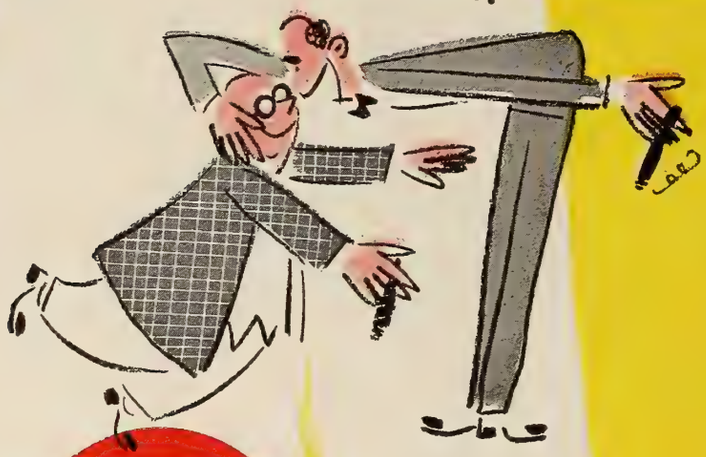
...when Jack tells Charlie
about the jack that Charlie
can make if, like Jack
(who likes jack), he grabs the...

"Money talks... and it's sayin' Hal Roach. We always make a buck on his stuff, don't we, and these days a buck's a buck!"



"HAL

"Here's what's cooking when you're booking the...



HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL

One hour-and-forty-two minutes of great Cinecolor comedy. A top feature of fun,

COMEDY

IN COLOR

"Look, here's what the UA salesman told me. Roach has a real sock package of fun. It kills audiences. And it's in Cinecolor. Can it be bad?"



ROACH CARNIVAL

"And laughs! This Carnival has more laughs than a beer has bubbles. Like it says in the book—'Keep 'em laughing and you keep 'em coming!'"



laughful of stars of today and tomorrow. Yes, Brother, with loads and loads of all that's funny in it, there's loads and loads of money in it!"

So, if it's profits you're after... get after UA!



Jersey Allied Meet Starts Tomorrow

Spyros P. Skouras, Joseph Bernhard, Henderson Ritchey and Bert Sanford are additional industry executives who have indicated their intention to attend the Atlantic City convention of the Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey which will open tomorrow and continue through Thursday, it is reported by N. J. Allied president Edward Lachman. Comedian Lew Lehr will be master-of-ceremonies at the Thursday evening testimonial banquet for Jack Kirsch, national Allied chief.

Among exhibitor organization heads who will attend are: Sidney E. Samuelson, Allied of Eastern Pennsylvania; Abram F. Myers, Allied States; Mike Leventhal, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Maryland; Leonard Goldberg, Independent Exhibitors Association; W. O. Prewitt, Gulf States ATO; Morris Finkle, Allied of Western Pennsylvania; Dr. J. B. Fishman, Connecticut Allied; Benny Berger, North Central Allied. An attendance of 500 is expected.

Selznick to Testify In Korda Case Today

David O. Selznick is expected to testify today when the Laudy Lawrence breach of contract suit against Alexander Korda resumes in New York Supreme Court.

At Friday's session, Lawrence continued his testimony, declaring that he was never paid or received any dividends from other picture deals he was interested in during the time he was employed by Korda.

Pictorial to Release 40 to 16mm. Field

Forty features will be released in the 16mm. exhibition field by Pictorial Films during 1947-48. Five features in color, including "The Enchanted Forest," and four outdoor-musicals, with Eddie Dean and Roscoe Ates, will be included.

Also on the program will be "Wife of Monte Cristo," "Down Missouri Way," "Club Havana," "How Dooo You Do?" and "Queen of Burlesque."

Baird Resigns Post With British Unit

Thomas Baird, director of the film division of the British Information Services here, has resigned. He will leave for London tomorrow.

Baird expects to return to the United States in September when he will take over a new post with the British government.

Paul Sprague Retires

QUINCY, Cal., June 22. — Paul R. Sprague, an exhibitor for the past 35 years, has retired here. Sprague sold the Quincy Theatre to Edward Claeys of Martinez.

Reviews

"Bush Christmas"

(G. B. Instructional-GFD)

London.

IF the high standard set by this production, first feature to be attempted by the children's entertainment films department of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, is maintained, there need be no fear of the 500,000 children, who attend the clubs throughout Britain, being subjected to detrimental entertainment.

They claim that one of the greatest desires of young theatregoers is to see children of their own age on the screen, children with whom they can identify themselves. That has been the aim in this simple story of a bunch of youngsters who track down horse thieves in the Australian Bush. The children here give most natural and convincing performances.

The five youngsters involved, Helen, John and "Snow" (children of an Australian farmer), an English evacuee and a Negro boy, have their Christmas holidays interrupted by the thieves. Then, under pretense of a camping trip, the little band set out to recapture the stolen horses. Many days are spent in the Bush—where they become lost, hungry and homesick, but always keep the bad men guessing—and eventually they win and return home for a belated Christmas dinner. It is a righteous-conquering-the-wicked story and put together extremely well.

Set against the background of the Blue Mountains of New South Wales, together with its admirable portrayal of life in the Australian Bush, it is bound to be of strong appeal to children throughout the world. The film has the achievement of its predecessor, "The Overlanders," behind it. Ralph Smart, associate-producer of that first, had complete charge of this one, while Chips Rafferty, John Fernside and Helen Grieve are starred again. It is, however, the children who steal the show and that is how it should be.

Running time, 80 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM PAY

"Killer Dill"

(Screen Guild Productions)

Hollywood, June 22

THIS broad screen satire on gangster films and the gangster era is angled for laughs, and for the most part is able to get them. Also, it brings Stuart Erwin and his drawly voice and Will Rogers mannerisms back to the screen after an absence. These are its two chief selling points. For a limited budget film, produced by Max M. King, it moves along at a smart clip, under Lewis D. Collins' direction. The footage itself might have been tightened a trifle to relieve monotonous spots in its action.

Starting off as a timid lingerie salesman, carrying a romantic torch, Erwin is catapulted by circumstances into a gangster plot and accused of knocking off Public Enemy No. 21. By another well-contrived plot device he is freed of blame in the killing despite his bungling lawyer friend, who has lost his first 12 cases but wins this one, his 13th. Erwin then returns to his nightie and brassiere business and resumes his romantic endeavors successfully.

Frankie Albertson and Mike Mazurki turn in good acting jobs to support Erwin. Anne Gwynne is Stu's will-o'-the-wisp sweetheart. Other roles are handled capably by Milburn Stone, Ben Welden, Dorothy Granger and Shirley Hunter. The screenplay is by John O'Dea, from Alan Friedman's original story.

Running time, 75 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

W.J.McG.

Siritzky Deal Underway

Under Siritzky International's import deal with Pathe Cinema, Gaumont and the French government-owned Union Generale du Cinema, the American film distribution organization has acquired U. S. rights to "Farrebique," which won the Grand Prix du Cinema Francais in 1946, Sam Siritzky disclosed here yesterday. American premiere will be held at Siritzky's Ambassador Theatre here.

Services for Smith

Services were held here yesterday at Riverside Memorial Chapel for Aaron Smith, treasurer of People's Candy Co., which services Loew theatres. He is survived by two daughters.

Wengler Returns to Altec as Ad Manager

W. W. Simons, advertising-publicity manager of Altec Service Corp., has been reassigned and is succeeded by Harold Wengler, effective today. Wengler was Altec's first advertising manager, starting with the formation of the company in 1937.

Mamula Assigned

Nick Mamula, newspaper and trade press contact of Selznick Releasing Organization, will handle unit publicity in connection with the New York shooting of Selznick's "Portrait of Jennie," which resumes here today. He will be assisted by Mel Strauss, foreign publicity contact.

Stanton, Kobak Hit Radio Restrictions

WASHINGTON, June 22.—Columbia Broadcasting System president Frank Stanton opposes any restrictions on the number of broadcast stations to be controlled or owned by a single licensee. He testified Friday before a Senate commerce subcommittee holding hearings on the White Bill to reorganize the Federal Communications Commission and rewrite the Communications Act.

He said he knew of no other field in which the Government attempts to set a fixed ceiling on the size of an enterprise. "It is difficult to understand," he continued, "why broadcasting should be singled out for special legislation of this unique type."

Both Stanton and Edgar Kobak, president of Mutual Broadcasting, continued the broadcasters' attacks on the bill, claiming that radio is entitled to, and now demands, the same protection under the First Amendment as enjoyed by the press. They urged the bill be amended to end FCC control of program content.

Kobak said the bill "ratifies and approves an unwarranted control by the FCC of programs broadcast by radio stations and of the business practices of the licensees."

Stanton said there is "no question" in his mind that "broadcasting must be freed from Government interference or control if it is to serve its democratic function in our nation."

Kalmine to Conduct Zone Managers' Meet

Harry M. Kalmine, president and general manager of Warner Theatres, will preside at a zone managers' meeting tomorrow at the home office.

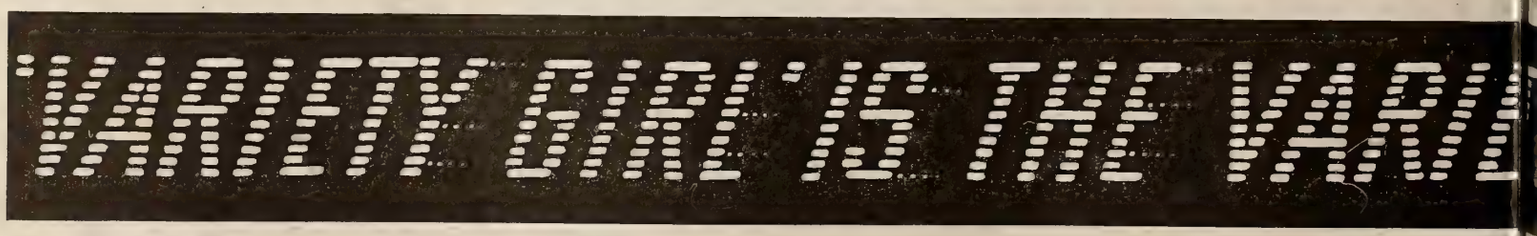
Zone managers attending will be James Coston, Chicago; Nat Wolf, Cleveland; I. J. Hoffman, New Haven; Frank Damis, Newark; C. J. Latta, Albany; Ted Schlanger, Philadelphia; M. A. Silver, Pittsburgh; John J. Payette, Washington.

Home office executives at the meeting will also include Clayton E. Bond, Frank E. Cahill Jr., Nat Fellman, Harry Goldberg, Harold Rodner, Herb Copelan, Louis J. Kaufman, Herman Maier, Frank Marshall, W. Stewart McDonald, Frank N. Phelps, Harry Rosenquest, Dan Triester, Rudolph Weiss and Zeb Epstin.

Moray Sets Drive on Warner Bros. Shorts

Warners' 16th annual bookers drive, in which activity is focused on short subjects, has been set for July 5-Sept. 27, according to Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager.

The first three weeks of the campaign will run concurrently with the Warner anniversary drive, April 27-July 26.



New Video Permits Granted to Five

WASHINGTON, June 22. — The Federal Communications Commission today cleared the way for Philco Television Broadcasting Corp. to experiment with a multiple hop microwave television inter-city relay system.

The Commission granted Philco permission to change frequencies, transmitter locations and antenna systems on five experimental stations to provide a two-way microwave radio link system between New York and Philadelphia.

Philco plans, according to the FCC, to relay programs from New York to Wynmoore, near Philadelphia, with a repeater at Mount Rose, N. J. Provisions are also being made to connect with other circuits.

Philco, it was learned, filed a statement with the FCC in connection with the recent relay conference asking the Commission to keep an open mind on systems for television networking.

The FCC granted General Electric authority to retain experimental licenses for four Class 1 stations for equipment design and testing purposes.

Channel assignments were announced for 44 new FM broadcast stations recently granted construction permits, including five in New York and three in Philadelphia. The five in New York were for WMCA, News Syndicate Co., Unity Broadcasting Corp., American Broadcasting Co., and North Jersey Broadcasting Co.

U. S. Video Debut On the Continent

First demonstration of an American television system on the European continent was reported here at the weekend by Meade Brunet, vice-president of the Radio Corp. of America and managing director of the RCA international division.

Brunet said the demonstration, which employed the latest type RCA television equipment, included a pick-up of the program of three ballets at the La Scala Opera in Milan, Italy. The television system is being exhibited during the Milan International Fair, which this year commemorates the 50th anniversary of the invention of radio by Marconi.

A direct report from Milan was received by radio by Brunet from G. A. Biondo, head of the Telonda International Corp., RCA distributor in Italy.

Rosenberg, Shaff on Production for U-I

Frank P. Rosenberg, who resigned last month as publicity director at Columbia's Coast studio in order to enter production, has become associated with Monte Shaff in the production of "Man Eaters of Kumaon," which is to be released by Universal-International, the latter's home office reports.

U-I Asks Court Rule On Billing Tangle

Hollywood, June 22.—In a Federal Court suit unique in Hollywood history and regarded as possibly being precedent-setting, Universal-International has asked for declaratory relief in a controversy over star billing. Controversy arose, according to the company, when Maria Montez allegedly waived the cause guaranteeing her top billing for "The Exile" in which she appears with Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., and then disclaimed the waiver. The suit, in substance, asks the court to examine Miss Montez's and Fairbanks' contracts, both of which guarantee top billing to the respective stars, and give a legal ruling on the issue.

More Para., Warner Salaries Disclosed

PHILADELPHIA, June 22.—Harry M. Warner, Warner Brothers president, received $182,300 in salary last year, and Barney Balaban, Paramount president, was paid $159,000 by his company, the respective companies' annual reports to the Securities and Exchange Commission disclose.

All salaries and commissions reported to the SEC are gross figures before Federal or state income taxes. The Federal tax alone runs about 50 per cent on a $100,000 salary, scaling up to 68 per cent on a $500,000 salary.

Other Paramount executives' salaries for 1946, as reported, were: Henry Ginsberg, $219,500; Samuel Pinanski and M. J. Mullin, $144,102 each as a share in profits; Adolph Zukor, $136,400; Y. Frank Freeman, $132,500.

Other Warner executives' salaries for last year were: Jack L. Warner, $182,100; Hal Wallis, former producer-director and participant in gross receipts of certain pictures, $150,000.

Other salaries paid by both companies were reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Friday.

Literary Guild To Promote 'Destiny'

The Literary Guild, which recently selected "Proud Destiny," Lion Feuchtwanger's novel as its October selection, will undertake a joint publicity-exploitation campaign with Enterprise Studios, which purchased motion picture rights for $350,000.

Joint promotion plans will be worked out by Frederick Polangin, Enterprise's Eastern publicity director; Jay Tower, Literary Guild publicity director, and Ruth Brown, publicity director for Viking Press, publisher.

Studio Inter-change Is Vital: O'Brien

LONDON, June 22.—An accord promoting and regulating the exchange of studio technicians between Britain and the United States is vital in view of the succession of unofficial strikes here as a consequence of the inflow of American technicians, declares Tom J. O'Brien, secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes.

O'Brien who went to New York for conferences on an interchange, with Richard Walsh, president of the IATSE, held a press conference with Walsh, who is here to further the program, and disclosed that both agreed in principle to such an accord, but that its finalization awaits discussion on it with George Elvin, secretary of the Association of Cine-Technicians.

The unofficial strikes were highlighted when Paulette Goddard imported her studio hairdresser from Hollywood.

SOPEG Rejects UA Offer in Wage Talks

A wage offer by United Artists, characterized by the union as meaning only a two or three per cent increase, has been rejected by Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, CIO. The union has asked for a 30 per cent general rise for some 200 employes.

The union said that the firm had offered increases of 70 cents to $2.55, based on labor grades and job classifications.

Another meeting between the company and the union negotiating committee will be held on Wednesday afternoon.

Confidential Reports Signs with SOPEG

A contract affecting 60 employes was signed at the weekend between the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, and Confidential Reports, Inc. All employes presently receiving salaries below the minimums established between SOPEG and the industry last year, will immediately be brought up to those minimums, retroactive to April.

Whatever increases are negotiated between SOPEG and the industry in the forthcoming months will be paid to all CRI employes, retroactive to April.

Studio Labor Heads To Honor Pat Casey

HOLLYWOOD, June 22.—Pat Casey, former labor relations adviser for Coast studios, will be guest of honor Thursday night at a dinner given by studio labor relations directors and their assistants at Beverly Hills Club. Fred Meyer of 20th Century-Fox will preside.

'Lab' Wage Rise

(Continued from page 1)

years of employment, eight holidays per year and severance pay ranging from one to five weeks' salary, continue as in the last contracts, which expired on March 10. The new contracts run until June 19, 1949.

Laboratories affected are: De Luxe, Consolidated, Paramount, Paramount News, Warners' Ace Film, Warners' home office print department, Pathe, both Bound Brook and New York, H. E. R., Du-Art, Mecca, Guffanti, Movielab, Circle, Precision, Malcolm, Mercury and Producers.

Joseph McMahon of Consolidated, was chairman of the employers' negotiating committee, while J. J. Francavilla, business agent of Local No. 702, head the union group. "IA" vice-president James Brennan, who signed the contracts, entered the talks in March, and Richard F. Walsh, president of the international, who is now in Europe, participated in the concluding phase.

Withdraw Strike Call In Pathe 'Lab' Talks

As a result of a company agreement to resume negotiations tomorrow afternoon, Motion Picture Home Office Employes Local No. H-63, IATSE, has withdrawn its request to 'IA' headquarters for approval of a strike of office employes at the East 106th St. and Bound Brook laboratories of Pathe Industries.

A union spokesman had charged that the company suddenly terminated negotiations two weeks ago, and that this action prompted the decision to ask 'IA' headquarters approval for a strike.

Seward Benjamin, attorney for the firm, declined to comment, on the latest development.

Form Unit Here to Represent Discina

Discina International Films Corp. has been formed here to represent Discina Films of France in the distribution of its product in the U. S., Canada, and territories South of the border. The new unit will also act as representative of Discina in acquiring American films for the French market.

Morris Goodman, formerly president of Republic Pictures International, is president and general manager of the new company. Discina in France is headed by Andre Paulve and Jacob M. Millard. Goodman left here over the weekend for Mexico and Cuba to set up distribution deals.

Memphis House Sold

MEMPHIS, June 22.—Rialto Theatre here has been sold by Paul Zerilla and Joe Maceri to James Augustine, manager of The Rosemary Theatre. The Rialto is one of the theatres which went to Zerilla and Maceri when L and L theatres were dissolved a month ago. M. A. Lightman Sr. took possession of the Memphian and Linden Circle theatres, leaving the Lamar, Capitol, Joy and Rialto to Zerilla and Maceri.

TV CLUBS' OWN PICTURE...

Tighter Censorship Sought in Australia

By CLIFF HOLT

SYDNEY, June 17 (By Airmail).—A strongly organized campaign for tightened censorship laws has been launched by the South Australian Council of Social Services, which advocates the appointment of a child psychologist to advise the Commonwealth censorship board, the appointment of a state films commission, and state supervision of trailers and ads.

Other demands in the Council's nine-point program include segregation of children accompanied by adults to a reserved section of the theatre, the appointment of school teachers to attend film previews, and appointment of a vigilance committee to report on advertisements, posters and trailers. The Council also wants the State Minister of Education to investigate the effect of films on children.

The Council's campaign has been launched somewhat belatedly, since the South Australian government already has agreed with the Commonwealth government's suggestion that its censorship regulations should be amended to bring them into line with those of other States so that censorship throughout Australia may be made uniform.

Censorship Threat

(*Continued from page* 1)

an interview with Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston as part of his inquiry into how the industry self-regulation works, and stated he might propose a "strong board of censorship for the District if the facts justify it."

The Illinois Republican said if he could not see Johnston before he left for Europe, he would not wait until he returned before making recommendations.

The whole matter came up when the committee took up a resolution introduced yesterday by Rep. Rankin to ban further showing in the District of "Duel in the Sun." Rep. O'Hara of Minnesota said he had seen the picture and it was "filthy and obscene."

"I am amazed," he stated, "that Hollywood let the picture out." Other members of the committee including Klein of New York and Miller of Nebraska chimed in with attacks on "Duel" and other pictures. They all said they were generally opposed to any censorship board but added that "something had to be done."

Finally, Dirksen was named to investigate and report. At present, the Women's Bureau of the District police department reviews all pictures to be shown in Washington about a week before they open.

Balaban Re-elected

(*Continued from page* 1)

charge of budget and planning; Fred Mohrhardt, treasurer; Robert H. O'Brien, secretary, and Russell Holman, Jacob H. Karp and Frank Meyer, assistant secretaries.

Griffis is in Europe en route to Warsaw as newly-appointed U. S. Ambassador to Poland. During his absence from executive committee meetings, the chairmanship will be temporarily filled by other committee members, a company spokesman said.

Reviews

"The Man Within"

(*Gainsborough-GFD*)

London.

DESIGNED for the thoughtful and discerning, here is another of those J. Arthur Rank challenges to the alleged domination of films by the "mob". The piece was adapted by Sydney and Muriel Box from the novel by Graham Greene. The original concerned itself, in a welter of symbolism, with a motto from the works of the early English philosopher, Sir Thomas Browne: "There's another man within me and he is angry with me."

The screen adaptors give the story a directness which the novel lacked; Bernard Knowles has made the piece with a deft sureness and a fine eye for its mystic significance; it is photographed in grave and revealing Technicolor; actors Michael Redgrave, Richard Attenborough, actresses Joan Greenwood and Jean Kent make assured contributions. Yet not once is the film allowed to make the least concession to the orthodox. The everyday showman accustomed to everyday fare admittedly will be disposed to look down his nose at the offering. Our own confident bet is that the film, when news of it gets around, will be another of those unanticipated money-makers.

The time is vaguely the 18th century; locale, the coast and hinterland of England's South country where smugglers and "gentlemen of the road" were the heroes of the common man and righteous lawyers and such his despised enemies. The boy Francis is tortured at school for his cowardice, and seems destined all his life to endure torture for that same season. He finds himself pitchforked into a raffish crew of "free-traders" whose vicious deviltries just get on top of him. In a moment of desperate resentment he denounces his shipmates to the King's officers. Murder is done and the boy flees to the marshes.

The captain of the crew pursues him not so much to exact vengeance as to exorcise the devil of cowardice from the lad. There are interludes with fine ladies of the time; one good, the other just as naughty as the dictates of Britain's censor will allow. The ship's captain dies on the gallows after he has watched with mounting pride, the boy find his manhood under searing torture.

Just that. But it is all told with delicate, moving, refreshing understatement. Redgrave is the angel-demon of the plot; young Richard Attenborough, the wretched boy who becomes a man under the torturer's tongs. The ladies are played by Jean Kent and Joan Greenwood, and each is mighty good.

It is a disturbing, disconcerting film. And most certainly a challenge. The signs are that British audiences will take up the challenge. Americans, it may be surmised, will do likewise if they be vouchsafed a sight of the picture.

Running time, 90 minutes. British adult audience classification. Release date not set.

PETER BURNUP

"The Great Betrayal"

(*Idea Film—Screencraft*)

THE sweat and sinew that went into the transformation of Palestine from an arid wasteland to fertile country is stressed in this feature-length documentary. The film centers on the struggles of a group of Jewish settlers, using an abundance of photographic symbolism for effect. After a slow, pulsating unwinding, the film ends with some newsreel shots of what are purported to be British soldiers meting out callous treatment to refugees trying to enter Palestine.

Although Palestine is currently an exciting news topic, the film offers little that is contemporary in any news sense. Its appeal seems aimed at those with especial interest in the subject. The story is by Julia and Simon Singer, with a narration by William S. Gailmor.

Running time, 73 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, June 4.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Seattle Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

Artists, National Theatres, Evergreen Theatres, Cascade Theatres, Evergreen State Amusement and Fox Theatres.

Judge Bowen's decision sustained the plaintiff's charge of conspiracy and monopoly in restraint of trade and granted injunctive relief. The court ordered damages of $60,000 plus costs and suitable attorney fees to be paid the plaintiffs, which had asked for treble damages under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, a claim of $485,000. He held that the plaintiff's Venetian Theatre is entitled to the same third-run clearance as in effect for the Egyptian and Neptune Theatres, and to other benefits enjoyed by those theatres.

The defense had denied any conspiracy, and had claimed that the Neptune and Egyptian received the films first because they were in a different class from the Venetian.

'U' Reissue Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

films in the United States, Alaska and Hawaiian Islands. Some of the pictures will be distributed through PRC exchanges. Additionally, the new company is presently considering granting sub-licenses to other proposed franchise holders in the territories covered by the deal.

At the same time, it was announced that Budd Rogers, industry veteran, has been appointed vice-president in charge of distribution and sales for Harris-Broder.

Officers of Harris-Broder Pictures, which has offices here, are Joseph Harris, chairman of the board and treasurer; Paul Broder, president; Norman Eisenstein, executive vice-president; Rogers, Jack Broder and Jacques Grinieff, vice-presidents; Irving Kipnis, secretary.

The deal was negotiated by David Fogelson of the law firm of Schwartz and Frohlich for Harris Broder, Saul Rogers for Budd Rogers, and the Universal attorneys.

Pickford Decision

(*Continued from page* 1)

Pickford announced that her decision on the appointment of Tom J. Connors, former vice-president in charge of distribution for 20th Century-Fox, as president of U.A. had not been made, nor had she made up her mind on the pending offer of Si Fabian, Eastern circuit operator, for purchase of her half interest in U.A. in association with the First National circuit of Boston. She stated further there would be no decision before today.

No new factors were introduced into the situation over the weekend to account for the delay and there was no apparent explanation of it other than Miss Pickford's continuing indecision.

Thus, the situation is carried over into this week with some indication that it may be resolved at new meetings to be held here today. The choice of Connors for president remains the most likely outcome in the absence of any other outward change in the situation since Friday.

Miss Pickford, who had planned to leave for the Coast last night, remained here for today's meetings. She is due in Hollywood on Wednesday, which will necessitate her traveling by plane.

Smith Honored

(*Continued from page* 1)

Hotel Astor here on Friday. More than 600 attended.

At the opening, all stood in prayer for the late C. E. Peppiatt, Mid-eastern division sales manager, and the late Sam Gross, Atlantic district manager, both of 20th Century-Fox, who were killed on June 13 in a plane crash in West Virginia.

Speakers included Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox; Harry Brandt, Arthur Mayer, Fred Schwartz, Smith, Gehring and Moon. Sam Rinzler was toastmaster and David Weinstock was chairman of the arrangements committee.

Others of 20th Century-Fox who were honored included: Clarence Hill, supervisor of branch operations; Seymour Florin, branch manager of the New York exchange; Martin Moskowitz, executive assistant to Smith; Peter Levathes, short subject sales manager, and Sam Shain. Smith, Gehring, and Moon were recently promoted to general sales manager, assistant general sales manager, and Yankee division sales manager, respectively.

Some 46 industry leaders, including the guests of honor, were on the dais.

More Air Rate Cuts

(*Continued from page* 1)

sible. All major lines will definitely participate, they stated, but one or two smaller regional lines may not go along.

The 18 members which Air Cargo said would file, or have filed are: "American (filed), Branff, Chicago and Southern, Colonial, Continental, Delta, Eastern, Inland, Mid-Continental, Monarch, National, Northeast, PCA, Pioneer, Southwest Airways, TWA, United (filed), and Western.

Air Cargo officials said the consolidated schedule would not be "exactly the same" as those announced publicly by United and American, but would be comparable." The carriers affected carry close to all scheduled air cargo in the U. S.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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VOL. 61. NO. 122 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 1947 TEN CENTS

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Supreme Court Accepts Suit Jurisdiction

Defers Decision on ATA, CSA Intervention Pleas

WASHINGTON, June 23.—The Supreme Court today agreed to hear the appeals of the Government and defendants from the terms of the New York industry anti-trust decree.

Argument will probably be heard early next year. Exact dates may be announced over the summer recess.

At the same time the court postponed decision on pleas of exhibitor organizations to intervene until "the hearing of the cases on the merits." This means in effect that the court will hear argument and then decide on the exhibitor pleas. American Theatres Association and the Confederacy of Southern Associations are asking leave to intervene, both directly on the high court level and on appeal

(*Continued on page 7*)

Chicago Release Ban Upheld on Appeal

CHICAGO, June 23.—An appeal to the Supreme Court by defendants from the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision upholding the injunction in the Jackson Park Theatre case against the Chicago system of film releasing is considered likely here.

Miles Seeley, defense attorney, declined to comment on the decision, which was handed down on Saturday. Thomas McConnell, the plaintiff's attorney, said, "I think Judge Igoe's original decree plus this ruling speaks for me."

McConnell referred to the decree

(*Continued on page 7*)

U.A. Talks Continue; Pickford Stays Here

Mary Pickford again has postponed her scheduled departure for the Coast pending a decision on the sale of her United Artists half interest to Si Fabian, or failing that, the appointment of Tom J. Connors as president of U.A.

Conversations are being continued, with neither proposal yet resolved.

Jersey Allied Meet Will Open Today

Atlantic City, June 23.—More than 500 are due here for the convention of the Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, which will open here tomorrow and will continue through Thursday. Edward Lachman, president, will open the convention.

Among those attending will be delegates of many exhibitor organizations, members of equipment firms and distributor executives.

U. S. Files Trust Suit Against Ascap

The Department of Justice yesterday filed in New York Federal Court a civil action charging the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers with "engaging in a world-wide cartel and conspiracy to monopolize musical performing rights in violation of the anti-trust laws."

The complaint makes no mention of Ascap's domestic licensing operations, but rather concerns itself with allegations to the effect that licensees of music performing rights, such as motion picture theatres and broadcasters, are prevented from obtaining music from abroad except through Ascap.

Purpose of the suit, according to Assistant Attorney General John F.

(*Continued on page 7*)

Industry Leaders in UJA Meeting Here

Industry spokesmen gathered in the Hotel Astor here yesterday to lay plans for a luncheon-rally to be held on the hotel's roof on July 15 in a move to meet the United Jewish Appeal's drive to raise $2,100,000 in the New York amusement industry. The UJA's national goal is $170,000,000 for the rescue, relief and resettlement of

(*Continued on page 7*)

Kentucky Owners to Elect on July 11

LOUISVILLE, June 23.—The Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners will hold its annual election of directors on Friday, July 11. Thirteen are to be elected, of which 11 with two at large and nine from the state Congressional districts will be elected for

(*Continued on page 7*)

Anti-Petrillo Act Upheld

WASHINGTON, June 23.—The Supreme Court today upheld the constitutionality of the anti-Petrillo Lea act.

By a five to three vote, the court said the statute was "not on its face in conflict with the First Amendment." The court admitted that specific applications of the act might violate constitutional guarantees, but said that was not the issue here.

In the case, the Government was appealing a District Court decision holding that the law did violate constitutional guarantees of free speech. The case involved a complaint against James C. Petrillo for using pickets and boycott against a Chicago radio station to force it to hire three musicians the station claimed it did not need. The act forbids compelling any licensee to employ any person or persons

(*Continued on page 7*)

Korda Staying Out Of U. S. Exhibition

British producer Alexander Korda yesterday said he has no plans to approach exhibition here, as Rank did, in an effort to gain increased playing time. He expressed satisfaction concerning the extent of playing time given his product in the U. S. in the past and added he anticipates exhibitors here will continue to consider his future output in all fairness. He said his only desire is to have his pictures played here to an extent commensurate with values.

J. Arthur Rank's arrangement with the five national circuits here was a good deal for Rank, Korda observed, but it has no immediate effect on other British producers' films here.

Smith Is Conducting Sales Meet Here

A two-day meeting of managers and salesmen of 20th Century-Fox's northeast division got underway here yesterday at the home office, called by Andrew W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, and William C. Gehring, assistant sales manager, to discuss selling plans for the remainder of the 1947 line-up.

Among pictures discussed were: "Miracle on 34th Street," "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," "Moss Rose," "Bob, Son of Battle," "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," "Mother Wore Tights," "Kiss of Death," "Foxes of

(*Continued on page 7*)

Labor Bill To Hasten Strike End: Johnston

Makes Prediction Before Departing for Europe

The Taft-Hartley labor act, which yesterday became law when the Senate over-rode President Truman's veto of the bill, will serve to hasten the end of the Hollywood jurisdictional strike, Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, predicted yesterday at LaGuardia Field, here, as he boarded a plane for Europe where he will resume the economic survey he was forced to cut short last year due to illness.

Johnston expressed his opinion of the new labor legislation in these terms: "It won't destroy unions, but it won't solve labor problems either." He urged "mutual understanding" between labor and management and said he believed a system better than that developed in the past can be brought

(*Continued on page 8*)

Industry Study of Theatre Video Off

WASHINGTON, June 23.—Any organized industry survey of theatre television possibilities has been indefinitely postponed. Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston has informed Loren Ryder, president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers,

(*Continued on page 7*)

Texas Theatres Ask 10% Cut in U.S. Tax

Menard, Tex., June 23.—An appeal to the U. S. Government to reduce the 20 per cent Federal admissions tax to 10 per cent has been made by Henry Reeve, president of the Texas Theatre Owners, Inc.

In the appeal, Reeve declared: "It's tough going for showmen of smaller spots to have to turn in $300, $400, $500 and up, per week, as a tax out of a pretty well limited gross which is steadily reverting to the more normal receipts of a few years ago."

Personal Mention

W. RAY JOHNSTON, Allied Artists - Monogram board chairman, will return to the U. S. July 1 after two months of conferences in England and on the Continent.

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JOHN P. BYRNE, Eastern sales manager for M-G-M, has switched his headquarters to the home office for the next month under the rotating plan recently announced. JOHN J. MALONEY, central sales manager who initiated the plan, has returned to his Pittsburgh headquarters.

•

NATHAN E. GOLDSTEIN, Massachusetts circuit operator, who was erroneously identified as president of Western Massachusetts Theatres, Inc., in this column on June 17, has not been with that company for over a year. SAMUEL GOLDSTEIN is president.

•

ROBERT SELIG, Fox Intermountain Theatres executive, is chairman of a committee to arrange for a homecoming celebration in Denver for BABE DIDRICKSON ZAHARIAS, winner of the British Women's Amateur golf tournament.

•

SALLY DUDELSON, daughter of HARRIS DUDELSON, Film Classics district manager in Cincinnati, and ROBERT BRISKER of Cincinnati will be married Sunday.

•

H. F. KINCEY, North Carolina circuit head, is a director of a group organizing a businessmen's association in Charlotte.

•

ROY DISNEY, president of Walt Disney Productions, is vacationing at Atlantic City, accompanied by his wife and son.

•

HENRY B. MOOG, former district manager of Altec's Atlanta district, has entered the real estate business in Atlanta.

•

LEONARD SCHLESINGER, Warner executive, is recuperating in Atlantic City after being hospitalized in Philadelphia.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warner Brothers vice-president and general sales manager, is touring the Southwest.

•

NORMAN H. MORAY, Warner Brothers short subjects sales manager, is at the Burbank studio.

•

JOEL LEVY, Loew's out-of-town booker, will leave here today for New England.

•

MAURICE N. WOLF, M-G-M director of exhibitor relations, is en route here from the Coast.

•

FRANCIS WINIKUS, UA advertising manager, returned from a vacation.

Fox, RKO Split Kansas City Houses

In a trade of holdings aimed at complying with the New York Federal Court's anti-trust decision, RKO Theatres and Fox Midwest have agreed to split, numerically, ownership of the Orpheum and Mainstreet Theatres, Kansas, each of them now owned by the two circuits on a 50-50 basis.

Malcolm Kingsberg, president of the RKO circuit, said here yesterday that the deal is now awaiting approval of the New York court.

The arrangement would give RKO 100 per cent ownership of the Mainstreet, now dark, while the Orpheum would go to Fox. Upon court approval, RKO would reopen the Orpheum.

Meanwhile dissolution of the last remaining pools involving affiliated circuits are continuing. The deadline set down by the court is July 1. In Mansfield, O., Warners has withdrawn its Ohio Theatre from joint operation with William N. Skirball's Mansfield and Ritz. Warners had operated the three in a pool.

Kupper Is Honored At 20th-Fox Dinner

William J. Kupper, newly-appointed managing director for 20th Century-Fox in Great Britain, was honor guest last night at a dinner given by Spyros P. Skouras, president of the firm, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here. More than 200 attended. Kupper, who has been with the company for 29 years, was presented with a diamond-studded watch by his associates, while Charles Skouras, president of National Theatres, sent a combination over-night bag and briefcase. Kupper will sail for London on July 2 on the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

William C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager, was toastmaster. Others on the dais included: Skouras, William C. Michel, Andrew W. Smith Jr., Irving Zion, mayor of Lawrence, Kupper's recent home town; Joseph Moskowitz, Murray Silverstone, Donald Henderson, Dan Michalove, Charles Schlaifer, Edmund Reek, Otto Koegel, W. J. Eadie and Ray Moon.

Jim Tully, Author, Dies on West Coast

LOS ANGELES, June 23.—Jim Tully, 56, a Hollywood figure, and author of more than a score of novels, died here yesterday of a heart ailment. He had been in poor health for two years. Before turning to writing professionally, he had been a prize-fighter, circus roustabout and tree surgeon. He later became one of the highest-paid interviewers of film stars.

Tully leaves a widow, Mrs. Myrtle Tully; a daughter, Mrs. Trilby Beeman, and a son, Thomas Alton Tully.

Buckingham Services

BALTIMORE, June 23.—Funeral services will be held here tomorrow for Harry Buckingham who died Friday after a brief illness. He had been connected with the Warner Brothers' Stanley Theatre.

Exchange Employes Ask 30% Increase

A demand for weekly salary increases of $10, or 30 per cent, whichever is higher, for 130 office employes of the Loew, United Artists, 20th Century-Fox and Columbia New York exchanges, has been submitted by Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, CIO.

The union also seeks a 30-hour week, union shop, and improved holiday schedules. The current two-year contract expires on July 31.

Holstein, Morrow, Weiner Lead Drive

Mark M. Holstein, salesman in the Dallas branch; Ralph Morrow of the Kansas City branch, and Abe Weiner in the Boston exchange, are the three leading salesmen in the initial standings in Universal - International's "Nate J. Blumberg-J. Arthur Rank Good Business Drive," according to the home office. Bookers of the Chicago, New York and Dallas exchanges hold first place in the initial bookers' standings.

The Denver branch, headed by H. Monsky, continues to lead the 31 branches. The district comprising Des Moines, Kansas City and Omaha, of which Ed Heiber is district manager, continues to lead the districts, while the Eastern division, of which Fred Meyers is division manager, continues to hold top standing of the divisions.

Anna Neagle, Peck, Win British Awards

HOLLYWOOD, June 23.—The "Gold Medal Award" of *Picturegoer,* British magazine, for the best performance of 1946, has been given to Anna Neagle for her performance in "Piccadilly Incident," it was reported here by Herbert Wilcox, her husband. Second award went to Celia Johnson and third to Ingrid Bergman.

For male performances, Gregory Peck received the Award for his role in "Spellbound." Michael Redgrave was cited second and Michael Wilding third.

Schwartz Is Manager Of Cleveland Group

CLEVELAND, June 23. — Ernest Schwartz, president of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association, is taking on the added duties of general manager, succeeding in the post left vacant by the death of George W. Erdmann.

'Repeat' Opens July 1

Eagle-Lion's "Repeat Performance" will have its New York premiere at the Rivoli Theatre following the run of "It Happened on Fifth Ave," on July 1.

Neu Picks Committee For Equipment Meet

Oscar F. Neu, president of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association, has named a committee on trade show and convention arrangements, as follows:

L. J. Arnsfield, C. S. Ashcraft, J. B. Contner, L. W. Davee, J. K. Elderkin, J. A. Fetherston, J. R. Hoff, C. P. Hughes, L. E. Jones, D. W. Matthews, Jake Mitchell, Pete Mole, J. F. O'Brien, A. Samuels, W. [illegible] Stober, C. J. Williams.

The committee will act on transportation, decorations, program, reception and entertainment. The convention will be held Sept. 24-29 at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
John MILLS • Valerie HOBSON
in J. Arthur Rank's
"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"
A Universal-International Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
JOAN BENNETT
ROBERT RYAN • CHARLES BICKFORD
in
'THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH'
RKO RADIO PICTURE

Allied Artists Productions, Inc., presents
Don De Fore - Ann Harding - Charlie Ruggles
Victor Moore - Gale Storm
in Roy Del Ruth's
"IT HAPPENED On 5th AVENUE"
Doors Open 9:30 A.M. RIVOLI Continuous Performances Popular Prices
B'WAY AT 49TH STREET

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN 1st N.Y. Showing!
'LOST HONEYMOON'
FRANCHOT TONE
ANN RICHARDS
TOM CONWAY
IN PERSON
BERT WHEELER
Harry Kahne
EXTRA!
Maureen CANNON

WILLIAM HOLDEN • JOAN CAULFIELD
in "Dear Ruth"
with BILLY DE WOLFE • EDWARD ARNOLD
MONA FREEMAN
A Paramount Picture.
IN PERSON PERRY COMO
LLOYD SHAFFER and his ORCHESTRA
HELEN CARROLL and the SATISFIERS
LARRY STORCH
THE FOUR EVANS
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

31st WEEK!
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE BEST FILM OF THE YEAR!
Winner of Nine Academy Awards!
ASTOR
B'WAY & 45th ST.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.


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love...
die...
by the rule
of the gun!
COLUMBIA
PICTURES

ZANE GREY'S
THRILL-SWEPT
STORY OF
WESTERN
OUTLAWRY!

GLORIOUS
IN THE SPLENDOR
OF OUTDOOR
CINECOLOR!



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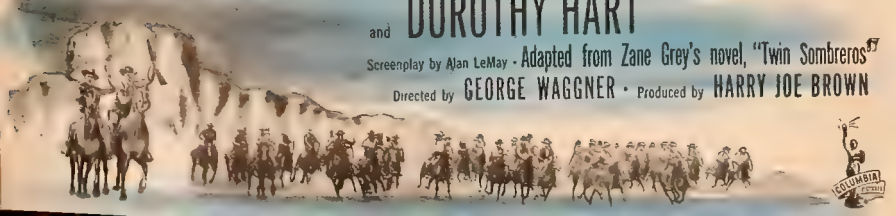


starring

Randolph
SCOTT · BRITTON
Barbara

with BRUCE CABOT · CHARLEY GRAPEWIN · STEVEN GERAY
FORREST TUCKER · CHARLES KEMPER · GRANT WITHERS
and DOROTHY HART

Screenplay by Alan LeMay · Adapted from Zane Grey's novel, "Twin Sombreros"
Directed by GEORGE WAGGNER · Produced by HARRY JOE BROWN



AND GUNFIGHTERS IS ONLY ONE OF THE BIG ONES NOW AVAILABLE FROM COLUMBIA!

The JOLSON STORY
IN TECHNICOLOR
with
LARRY PARKS · EVELYN KEYES
WILLIAM DEMAREST · BILL GOODWIN
Screenplay by Stephen Longstreet
Directed by ALFRED E. GREEN
Produced by SIDNEY SKOLSKY

The Return of Monte Cristo
starring
LOUIS HAYWARD · BARBARA BRITTON
GEORGE MACREADY
with
UNA O'CONNOR · HENRY STEPHENSON · STEVEN GERAY
RAY COLLINS · LUDWIG DONATH
Screenplay by George Bruce and Alfred Neumann
Directed by HENRY LEVIN
Produced by GRANT WHYTOCK
AN EDWARD SMALL PRODUCTION

HUMPHREY BOGART · LIZABETH SCOTT
in JOHN CROMWELL'S
Dead Reckoning
with
Morris CARNOVSKY · Charles CANE · William PRINCE · Marvin MILLER · Wallace FORD
Screenplay by Oliver H. P. Garrett, Steve Fisher
Directed by JOHN CROMWELL
Produced by SIDNEY BIDDELL

MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY
starring
DENNIS O'KEEFE · ADOLPHE MENJOU
MARGUERITE CHAPMAN · MICHAEL O'SHEA
with George COULOURIS · Jeff DONNELL · Steven GERAY · Ralph MORGAN · John KELLOGG
Screenplay by Ian McLellan Hunter
Based on the radio program "Mr. District Attorney" created by Phillips H. Lord · Directed by ROBERT B. SINCLAIR
Produced by SAMUEL BISCHOFF

DICK POWELL · EVELYN KEYES
in
JOHNNY O'CLOCK
with
LEE J. COBB · ELLEN DREW · NINA FOCH
S. THOMAS GOMEZ · JOHN KELLOGG
Screenplay by Robert Rossen
Directed by ROBERT ROSSEN
Produced by EDWARD G. NEALIS
Associate Producer
MILTON HOLMES

ROSALIND RUSSELL · MELVYN DOUGLAS
in
The GUILT OF JANET AMES
with
SID CAESAR · BETSY BLAIR · NINA FOCH
Screenplay by Louella MacFarlane, Allen Rivkin, Devery Freeman
Directed by HENRY LEVIN

GLENN FORD
in
FRAMED
with
JANIS CARTER · BARRY SULLIVAN
Edgar Buchanan · Karen Morley · Jim Bannon
Screenplay by Ben Maddow
Directed by RICHARD WALLACE
Produced by JULES SCHERMER

George BRENT · Joan BLONDELL
in
The CORPSE CAME C.O.D.
with
Adele Jergens · Jim Bannon · Leslie Brooks
Screenplay by George Bricker, Dwight Babcock
Based upon the novel by JIMMY STARR
Directed by HENRY LEVIN
Produced by SAMUEL BISCHOFF

in CINECOLOR!
GUNFIGHTERS
starring
Randolph SCOTT · Barbara BRITTON
with
Bruce Cabot · Charley Grapewin · Steven Geray
Forrest Tucker · Charles Kemper · Grant Withers
and DOROTHY HART
Screenplay by Alan LeMay
Adapted from Zane Grey's novel, "Twin Sombreros"
Directed by GEORGE WAGGNER
Produced by HARRY JOE BROWN

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Korda Takes Stand Against Lawrence

At a late session in New York Supreme Court last night, Alexander Korda took the stand in his own behalf in the breach-of-contract suit brought against him by Laudy Lawrence. The British producer testified that upon "investigation" he found that Lawrence was engaged in numerous activities, not in the best interests of Korda. Earlier yesterday David O. Selznick said that in 1942 he had entered into discussions concerning a position for Lawrence, but nothing materialized. He said also that he, Walt Disney, Korda and Samuel Goldwyn had considered sharing Lawrence's services, but nothing came of this either.

U. S. Against Ascap

(*Continued from page* 1)

Sonnett, "is to obtain a directive from the court requiring Ascap to withdraw from membership in the illegal foreign societies like the Confederation." Sonnett referred to the Confederation of International Societies of Authors and Composers of which Ascap and 25 other similar associations in as many foreign countries are said to be the sole members.

It was said in some quarters here yesterday that in the event the Government is successful in the suit it would be possible that theatremen might have to deal with Ascap-type organizations abroad or representatives here in order to exhibit films carrying foreign music. The suit seeks to enjoin Ascap from accepting music rights from any foreign society, unless the foreign society also makes its music available to other United States societies.

Deems Taylor, Ascap president, now in Europe, was informed of the suit by cable yesterday.

Chi. Release Ban

(*Continued from page* 1)

issued last year by U. S. District Court Judge Michael L. Igoe which outlawed the Chicago system of release. The Circuit Court's decision upholding the decree also held that while double features were not in themselves illegal "when used to further a conspiracy it has been tainted with illegality."

The plaintiff had charged that duals were employed to further absorb the market from independent theatres.

The Jackson Park won $360,000 in damages last year in the suit, which named major distributors, Balaban and Katz and Warner Theatres as defendants. A supplemental suit for $600,000 treble damages for alleged violations from 1940 to 1946 is still pending.

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PREVUE TRAILER SERVICE
Filmack 1327 S. WABASH AVE. CHICAGO 5

Supreme Court

(*Continued from page* 1)

from the District Court decision denying their right.

The court noted "probable jurisdiction" in the cases of U. S. vs. Paramount et al., Loew's vs. U. S., Paramount vs. U. S., Columbia vs. U. S., United Artists vs. U. S., and Universal vs. U. S.

Justice Jackson did not participate in the action.

May Not Seek Action Till High Court Rules

WASHINGTON, June 23.—William McGovern, Washington attorney, said today there is a "good possibility" that his client would not ask for any anti-trust action against two Detroit theatre circuits until the U. S. Supreme Court had decided the major industry anti-trust suit.

McGovern, who recently completed an investigation of United Detroit Theatres and Cooperative Theatres of Michigan, still refused to name his client. He said that the high court's decision would affect the position of the two theatre circuits in any anti-trust suit.

Anti-Petrillo Act

(*Continued from page* 1)

"in excess of the number needed to perform actual service."

The law is believed to be applicable to featherbedding practices wherever encountered and not unknown to motion picture theatres and studios.

Justice Reed, on behalf of himself, Justice Murphy and Justice Rutledge, attacked the Lea act, objecting to the "indefiniteness of the statutory description of the thing for which force must not be used." He contended that "Anglo-American law does not punish citizens for violation of vague and uncertain statutes."

Justice Douglas did not participate in the decision.

Industry Study Off

(*Continued from page* 1)

that too many MPA members oppose the SMPE's suggestion for a survey by an industry committee. The project will have to be held "indefinitely in abeyance," Johnston added.

It is understood that company presidents, queried on the suggestion, split just about 50-50, with about half contending that theatre television had not yet reached the point where any such survey is justified or needed. SMPE had asked for a committee to decide on how many frequencies would be needed, how the research program was to be financed, and other technical and financial information.

Para. Shows on Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, June 23. — When the Ink Spots and a 20-piece orchestra begin their personal appearance at the Paramount Theatre here on July 1, the Paramount will become the first downtown film house here to have a stage-show in over a decade, with the exception of RKO's Golden Gate. The new policy was instituted by Jerry Zigmond, general manager for Paramount Theatres here.

Kansas Theatre Burns

COLUMBUS, Kan., June 23. — Art Pugh's State Theatre here was destroyed by fire today which broke out at 1 A.M. Pugh and his wife, who have an apartment in the building, were uninjured.

Ohio I.T.O. Meeting Set for July 14-16

TOLEDO, June 23.—The ITO of Ohio will hold its convention at the Hotel Breakers, Cedar Point, O., on Lake Erie, July 14-16, Martin G. Smith, president, announced.

Business sessions will be held Monday and Tuesday, the convention banquet Tuesday night, and social events have been scheduled through Wednesday.

Kentucky ATO

(*Continued from page* 1)

two-year terms, and two at large for one year.

Nominees for two years from the nine Congressional districts are as follows: Jack Keiler, Columbia Amusement Co., Paducah; W. E. Horsefield, Morgan Theatre, Morganfield; Fred J. Dolle, Fourth Avenue Amusement Co., Louisville; C. S. Caldwell, Caldwell Theatres, Cave City; Tom Hill, Broadway Theatres, Covington; Willard Gabhart, "Harrodsburg," Joe Isaacs, Kentucky Theatres, Whitesburg; A. J. Sexton, Jr., Alfon Theatre, Ashland; Charles R. Mitchell, Barbourville Amusement Co., Barbourville.

Nominees for directors-at-large for two-year terms selected by the nominating committee follow: Andy Anderson, Photoplay Theatres, Hartford; W. Freeman Smith, Kentucky Theatre, Cadiz. Nominees for directors at large for one year are: Lew Hensler, Schine Theatres, Lexington; Ned Green, Legion Theatre, Mayfield.

UJA Meeting Here

(*Continued from page* 1)

Europeans as well as for the protection of rights in America.

While disclosing that contributions from the local industry so far are maintaining the average required to attain the national quota, Barney Balaban, national chairman of the UJA's motion picture division, said that developments had intensified the urgency of speeding up the New York drive.

Matthew Fox, co-chairman for the amusement division, who presided at the meeting, reported that "a little over $500,000" of the industry's $2,100,000 New York quota had been raised.

The campaign planned by his committee was discussed by Spyros Skouras, non-sectarian chairman for the industry. He pledged full support of the industry's non-sectarian groups. Another speaker was David Weinstock.

Smith Conducting

(*Continued from page* 1)

Harrow," "Nightmare Alley," "Daisy Kenyon," "Forever Amber," "Captain from Castile," "Gentleman's Agreement," and "The Snake Pit."

Others attending from the home office included: Spyros P. Skouras, W. C. Michel, Donald Henderson, Charles Schlaifer, Martin Moskowitz, Ray Moon, E. C. McCartney, Peter Levathes, Clarence Hill, Morris Caplan, Eddie Collins, Jack Bloom, Frank Carroll, Lem Jones, Frank Bryant, Sid Blumenstock and Eddie Solomon.

Carolina House Afire

MT. OLIVE, N. C., June 23.—A fire at the Center Theatre here destroyed the equipment. Harry Cook owns and operates.

Moments of Fury
— from —
"Desert Fury"



HAL WALLIS' Production
In Technicolor... From Paramount

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

BALTIMORE

A cool and somewhat cloudy weekend gave box-office figures a substantial start. But with most local attractions being holdovers, the week's grosses are expected to end up around normal. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 26:

CALCUTTA (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $13,500)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—CENTURY (3,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 3rd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average at regular prices of 29c-37c-46c-54c-56c: $14,500)
GO INTO YOUR DANCE (WB reissue)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $16,500)
THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—TOWN (return engagement) (1,450) (29c-37c-44c-56c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,500)
MILLIE'S DAUGHTER (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $22,000. Average: $17,500)
MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,000)
THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,500)
THIS HAPPY BREED (U-I)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-55c) 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000)
UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000)

TORONTO

Three holdover programs continued during the week. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 27:

THE BRASHER DOUBLOON (20th-Fox) and WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)
THE BRASHER DOUBLOON (20th-Fox) and WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $6,800)
CALCUTTA (Para.)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $14,300)
CYNTHIA (M-G-M) and DARK DELUSION (M-G-M)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-25c-35c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,400)
THE FARMERS DAUGHTER (RKO Radio)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $14,800)
FIESTA (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $13,800)
SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,800)
SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,500)

ATLANTA

Business showed a slight improvement this week. The weekend weather was fair. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 26:

CALCUTTA (Para.)—FOX (4,661) (30c-50c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,000)
LOVE AND LEARN (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (30c-50c). Gross: $7,950. (Average: $7,900)
RAMROD (UA)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (30c-50c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000)
TEMPTATION (U-I)—ROXY (2,446) (30c-50c). Gross: $5,900. (Average: $5,700)
UNEXPECTED GUEST (UA) and SPOILERS OF THE NORTH (Rep.)—CAPITAL (2,446) (25c-44c). Gross: $5,300. (Average: $5,200)

Wool Bill Can Hit Film Exports: Doyle

There will be a tightening up of Australia's dollar position, which could lead to the enactment of film quota legislation in that now wide-open country, if the U. S. wool price-support bill, awaiting action by President Truman, becomes law, in the opinion of Ralph Doyle, RKO Radio managing director for Australasia, who has returned here for a three-week business visit.

The President has until July 2 to act on the bill, which authorizes the President or the U. S. Tariff Commission to place a tariff, up to 50 per cent, on foreign wool, or to impose import quota restrictions which could reduce shipments from abroad to almost nothing. The object is to protect the $120,000,000-a-year American wool industry, which also would receive a guaranteed supporting price of about 42 cents a pound through 1948. A Presidential veto of the bill is expected.

Since the end of the war, Doyle said, there has been a 25 to 35 per cent decline in Australian and New Zealand theatre business. He described the decline as a "normal leveling-off," and said business there at present remains considerably better than it was in 1939. The public in those countries, he added, is "shopping keenly" for pictures. British and American pictures enjoy equal popularity with Australians, Doyle said.

Doyle deplored as a hindrance to progress the Australian Government's policy of licensing theatres, which affects 75 per cent of the country. The policy has the effect, he added, of "granting a franchise of perpetuity" to existing theatres and barring new theatre building by other than existing circuits. Warner Brothers, he disclosed, for long has been fighting the licensing policy in an effort to construct a theatre in Sydney on an already-selected site.

Crosby To Make Film For Rank in England

PEBBLE BEACH, Cal., June 23.—Bing Crosby and J. Arthur Rank disclose that Crosby will go to England next year to make a film for the Rank organization.

The deal was initiated by Wesley Ruggles, now in England for the Rank organization, and was negotiated by Everett Crosby and John O'Melveny, Crosby's manager and lawyer, respectively, and by Robert S. Benjamin, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization. Ruggles will direct the film.

Republic District Meet

CLEVELAND, June 23.—A Republic district managers' meeting was held at the Statler Hotel here yesterday. Sam Seplowin presided. Branch managers attending were: George Kirby, Cincinnati; Ike Sweeney, Pittsburgh; Irwin Pollard, Detroit; Norman Levin, Cleveland.

Ermini Sells Out

Aldo Ermini, vice-president and treasurer of Harold M. Young Productions, Inc., New York, has disposed of his interest and will devote this full time to his own production. Ermini will leave for Rome next month to arrange for a production with a Hollywood cast.

Kirsch Again Heads B'rith in Chicago

CHICAGO, June 23.—New officers of Chicago Cinema Lodge No. 1619 B'nai B'rith are:

Jack Kirsch, president, reelected; E. L. Goldberg, Manny Smerling and Sam Levinsohn, vice presidents; Louis L. Abramson, recording secretary; I. J. Silverman, treasurer; Albert Bartelstein, warden; Harris Silverberg, chaplain; Herb Lustig, assistant chaplain; Lester Simansky, guard.

Directors who were elected, and who, like the officers, will be installed in the first fall meeting on Sept. 18, include: J. F. Arman, Ralph Berger, M. M. Blumenthal, H. Busch, Ben Banowitz, V. Bernstein, A. Davidson, J. Fisher, M. Glaser, H. A. Gorney, M. M. Gottlieb, Charles Gross, H. W. Zinner, R. Hirsch, S. Honigberg, J. Irving, Simon Lax, K. Louis Linker, Ben Lourie, J. Rafilson, Norman Silverman, A. Simon, G. Topper, Gerald Wartell and E. Wolk.

Miss Brenon Aide to Gillham in New Setup

Aileen Brenon, after 15 years with Paramount, has started as assistant to Robert M. Gillham, Eastern advertising-publicity manager of the Selznick Releasing Organization, under a new publicity setup. Miss Brenon will also double as national and fan magazine contact.

Charlotte Parker has resigned from SRO and Vanguard Films, Inc., where she had been handling fashion promotions and fan magazines, to open her own publicity office.

Magill Will Manage Film Classics Office

Mort Magill, former exhibitor and for the past 12 years, branch manager for United Artists in Philadelphia, has been named branch head of Film Classics' new Philadelphia exchange, by Samuel N. Wheeler, sales manager.

Senate Passes Tax

WASHINGTON, June 23.—The Senate has passed and sent to conference a new revenue-raising bill for the District of Columbia, including a boost in the property tax rate of 25 cents per $100 of assessed valuation. The House has already passed a similar bill.

Sees MPEA Role in Germany Delayed

WASHINGTON, June 23.—Possibility is that the Motion Picture Export Association will not take over U. S. distribution in Germany on July 1, as originally expected by Irving Maas, MPEA vice-president, according to an MPEA spokesman who participated in discussions between War Department and industry representatives.

No final decision was reached in a 2½-hour closed session, according to Assistant Secretary of War Petersen, who issued a cryptic statement at the conclusion of the meeting to the effect that "we had a full and frank discussion." Some sources said that several "procedural matters" would not be finally agreed upon until after Eric Johnston, MPA president, confers with General Clay, military government chief in Germany, during his visit in Berlin in mid-July.

Two things apear fairly certain, according to the informant: that German production plans "will go ahead" and that a joint forwarding company to handle distribution on a non-exclusive basis would be set up. It was at this point that the spokesman indicated that MPEA would probably not assume direction of German distribution.

He also said that while there might be some more meetings among lesser officials, there would probably be no further conferences "on such a high level." Among those participating in the discussions were: Johnston, MPA vice-president Francis Harmon, Maas and MPA foreign film representative Allen Dulles. Attending for the Government were: Erich Pommer, Brig. Gen. Robert McClure, Brig. Gen. G. L. Eberle, Henry R. Carlton and Charles G. Mertz, Carlton's assistant.

Warns of State Dept. Foreign Film Slash

WASHINGTON, June 23.—The State Department's international motion picture division's functions would be to cut about "one-fifth of the going rate," if the Senate Appropriations Committee's recommendation goes through, acting chief Herbert T. Edwards said today.

The committee allocated $800,000 for the division, against a requested $3,000,000.

Eric Johnston

(*Continued from page* 1)

about to effect such understanding. The Hollywood strike was well advanced toward a settlement as the Taft-Hartley bill became law, but now the new law will hasten settlement, Johnston said.

The Senate overrode President Truman's veto of the bill by a 68 to 25 vote. The House voted last Friday to override by 331 to 83. The bill bans closed shops, jurisdictional strikes and secondary boycotts. It restricts union shops and a long line of other union practices. It gives the Government machinery to delay strikes in basic industries, makes unions liable for breach of contract, limits initiation fees, and guarantees employers free speech. The bill reorganizes the National Labor Relations Board, creates new mediation machinery, and sets up a joint Congressional committee to study labor-management relations.

Johnston's trip will take 40 days, during which he will visit France, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Hungary and Germany. He is scheduled to speak tonight at a banquet in Brussels which will be given by Regent Prince Charles of Belgium in connection with the Brussels Film Festival now in progress. Johnston said he will attend the Festival and also the International Trade Conference in Geneva.

The next 60 days, Johnston said, will tell whether Europe will or will not recover economically. European recovery depends, he said, on "reconstruction and not on reparations—on production rather than on ideologies." He said revitalization of the Ruhr coal industry is of primary importance. In this connection, he said, he will recommend to the military authorities in the occupied zones that John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, and top coal industry officials be invited to visit the Ruhr.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 123 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 1947 TEN CENTS

UK Aiming at Arbitrary Cut InFilmImports

Would Make Imports and Exports to U.S. Balance

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, June 24. — The British government will take "enabling powers" to authorize it, at its discretion, to increase customs duties

London, June 24.—Lord Beaverbrook's *London Daily Express* today carried a front-page story to the effect that the British government is planning a drastic cut in American film imports, with Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton expected to issue an early announcement. The story follows a recent editorial in Beaverbrook's *Evening Standard* which demanded a cut.

to any extent on exposed motion picture films. This machinery will, if necessary, adjust film imports against

(*Continued on page 7*)

Lachman Opens N.J. Allied Convention

ATLANTIC CITY, June 24.—Reviewing the admission tax-combatting activities of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey and the Federation of New Jersey Theatres (of which N J. Allied is a member), Edward Lachman, N. J. Allied president, told the opening day meeting of the organization's three-day annual convention being held at the Ambassador Hotel here, that "we will never give up the fight against unfair taxation wherever it may be contemplated." This statement is viewed as signifying that the Federation will remain as a permanent tax-fighting unit.

Lachman also reported that ap-

(*Continued on page 7*)

U.K. Jurisdictional Dispute Is Settled

LONDON, June 24.—An agreement affecting 50,000 British film workers, has been signed between the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes, the Association of Cinema Technicians and the Electrical Trades

(*Continued on page 4*)

'IA' Calls Meet On New Taft, Hartley Law

Leaders of the IATSE will meet with attorneys for the union this week to discuss the Taft-Hartley bill and its effect on "IA" contracts, negotiations and the organization itself.

Attending the conference will be Thomas J. Shea, assistant international president of the "IA," who heads the union in the absence of Richard F. Walsh, international president. now in Europe; William P. Raoul general secretary-treasurer, Frank Murdoch, attorney, and representatives of the law firm of Judge Matthew M. Levy.

Among topics to be discussed are the effect of the bill on jurisdictional disputes, such as the Hollywood dispute where studio carpenters are on

(*Continued on page 4*)

Norris Named 20th's Atlantic Manager

Glenn Norris, former branch manager in Washington, has been appointed Atlantic district manager for 20th Century-Fox, to succeed the late Sam Gross, killed in a plane crash on June 13. Gordon Contee, sales manager in the Washington branch, succeeds Norris.

The appointment was disclosed here yesterday by Andrew W. Smith Jr., general sales manager. A decision is yet to be made on a succesor to the late C. E. Peppiatt, Mid-Eastern division sales manager, who died in the same plane crash.

Taft-Hartley Bill Causes Coast Stir

Hollywood, June 24.—Effect of the Congressional passage of the Taft-Hartley bill over the Presidential veto on studio labor setup today became a topic of widespread speculation, although opinions varied widely.

Major studios' labor committee has not yet studied the new law, an inquiry revealed, but will do so in the near future, for guidance in contract negotiations now in progress and coming up within the year. At present the majors have closed-shop contracts with 17 unions, union-shop contracts with 13 and are in between contracts with 12 others.

NY First-run Grosses Firm

A sunny weekend that sent millions of New Yorkers to beaches and other resorts did not have too serious an effect on several first-run situations here. In spite of competition provided by the weatherman business here is good generally and in some spots it i very strong.

"New Orleans" clicked right off at the Winter Garden with its first week's business estimated at $45,000 At the Paramount, "Dear Ruth," with Perry Como on stage, is drawing top money, about $95,000 for a second

(*Continued on page 6*)

"Crossfire"

[*RKO-Radio*] — Between the Eyes

RICHARD BROOKS wrote a novel which he called "The Brick Foxhole." RKO-Radio bought it. John Paxton did the screenplay. Edward Dmytryk directed, for producer Adrian Scott. It now comes forth as "Crossfire" and, like its counterpart within book covers, it deals with anti-Semitism.

There are fictional characters, of course. There is a killing with shadings of the usual mystery and a surprise twist whereby the murderer, thoroughly suspected but not proven, falls into the net drawn for him But behind all this and coursing constantly through it as well, the story-line proceeds unflaggingly and undaunted in its measured, yet scathing denunciation of bigotry and intolerance nurtured through ignorance graduating into hate.

"Crossfire", therefore, is a very important film although its future is uncertain. Important because it took courage, because it is the sort of film not normally associated with Hollywood, because it recognizes a spade by another name remains a spade, because its makers know anti-Semitism is the forerunner of the other "antis"—for instance, the anti-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Circuits Rush Dissolutions Of Last Pools

Affiliates Must Comply With Decree by July 1

As the July 1 deadline for dissolution of theatre pools nears, affiliated circuits are now winding up the last of all such arrangements in which they are involved in compliance with the New York Federal Court decree.

Effective June 29, RKO will take over operation of its own Regent Theatre, Grand Rapids, which had been operated by the Butterfield Circuit in a pool with Butterfield's Keith and Majestic. In New York, Skouras and RKO have joint interests in the Academy and Jefferson houses, dissolution of which is being negotiated.

In Syracuse, Schine Theatres and RKO have interests in a corporation which operates the Empire, Echo and Paramount, all of which are operated in a pool with the Keith, owned by RKO. Break-up of the joint operation is underway.

Loew's and Paramount brought to

(*Continued on page 7*)

Chi. Court Refused Preferred Playing

The only part of the decree in the Jackson Park Theatre, Chicago, anti-trust case which was reversed by the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals was a provision which would have accorded the theatre the right to play one week ahead of its competitor, the Balaban and Katz Maryland Theatre.

In eliminating that provision from

(*Continued on page 7*)

Weisfeldt Made E-L Circuit Deal Head

Max Weisfeldt, special sales representative in New York for Eagle-Lion, has been placed in charge of circuit deals, by A. W. Schwalberg, E-L distribution vice-president, who, at the same time named Lou Weschler

(*Continued on page 7*)

2 Reviews Today

In addition to "Crossfire" in adjoining columns, "Black Gold" is reviewed today on page 4.

Files Against Para. Investment Plan

Paramount's plan to organize and finance Employes' Investment Co., in which key personnel would participate and which would invest only in Paramount common stock is attacked as "illegal and constituting a waste of the company's assets," in a stockholder's complaint filed in New York Federal Court yesterday.

Barney Balaban, Paramount president, informed stockholders at the annual meeting here June 17 that the plan is designed to provide further incentive for about 45 executives who as participants in Employes' Investment would profit by continued successful operation of Paramount. Stockholders voted approval at the meeting.

Leah Schanfarber, plaintiff in the action, asks that the company be enjoined from consummating the proposed investment plan. The complaint charges the plan would result in "irreparable damages to the plaintiff and other stockholders of the defendant similarly situated."

Petrillo House Quiz May Be Postponed

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Despite the assertion of some members of the House labor committee that the group's investigation of James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, would start next Monday, the chances are that the probe will be postponed at least until the following week, if not longer.

The decision probably will be made today by committee chairman Hartley and sub-committee chairman Kearns, both of whom have been out of town. The hitch is that the Supreme Court remanded the case to the district court, so that Petrillo is still party to a pending court proceeding. Congressional committees usually have steered clear of getting entangled in such proceedings.

Ascap Board To Meet On Government Suit

A special meeting of the board of directors of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers has been called here for tomorrow to take up the matter of the Government's suit against the organization on the charge that it is part of a worldwide cartel.

Meanwhile it was disclosed yesterday that Ascap has resigned from the International Confederation of Authors and Composers Societies in London. The Society's membership in the international organization was the basis of the Government's allegation of Ascap monopoly of music from abroad.

Tola Names Donahue-Coe

Donahue and Coe, advertising agency here, has been named by Tola Productions to handle the newspaper-magazine campaign for "The Roosevelt Story," by Martin Levine, co-producer of the film. The campaign will be aimed at all large cities, with concentration on the Atlantic Coast at the outset, Levine said.

Personal Mention

BEN KALMENSON, Warner vice-president and general sales manager, is back in New York from a tour of Midwest and Southwest exchanges.

•

CHARLES M. REAGAN, Paramount distribution chief, flew to Chicago last night for talks with district manager ALLEN USHER and Balaban and Katz executives.

•

CURTIS MITCHELL, Paramount advertising-publicity manager, and BEN WASHER, publicity chief, will visit Atlanta, Detroit, Kansas City and Minneapolis this week.

•

MRS. ISADOR M. RAPPAPORT, wife of the owner of the Hippodrome, Baltimore, has returned from Union Memorial Hospital where she underwent an appendicitis operation.

•

N. PETER RATHVON, president of RKO Radio, is expected to leave the Coast July 1 to attend the company's convention which opens at the Waldorf-Astoria here on July 7.

•

JACK OSSERMAN, RKO Radio Latin America supervisor, and MRS OSSERMAN are in Chicago on a trip around the country to visit RKO offices before returning to Rio.

•

NORMAN ELSON, vice-president of Trans Lux Theatres, returned here yesterday from Mexico.

•

GEORGE W. SISOM, Westrex Corp. merchandise manager, and MRS. SISOM are parents of a son.

•

RODNEY BUSH, 20th Century-Fox exploitation manager, has left here for Chicago and Detroit.

•

CHARLES WALTER, director of "Good News" for M-G-M, has left New York for Honolulu.

•

LOUIS B. MAYER will address the Association of Newspaper Advertising executives in San Francisco on July 7.

•

LESTER COHEN, manager for Warners in Panama, is in New York on a vacation visit.

HENRY GINSBERG, Paramount production and studio executive, is in New York from the Coast.

•

ALFRED BUTTERFIELD, RKO Pathe News editor, has been cited in a feature story in the Chicago *Sun* as the member of Harvard's '37 class who has made the "most phenomenal rise." In second place was FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, JR.

•

JAMES E. PERKINS, Paramount managing director for Great Britain, and FRED E. HUTCHINSON, managing sales director for Britain, are in San Francisco from Hollywood and are expected to fly here this week.

•

THOMAS BAIRD, former film division chief for British Information Services, left here yesterday by plane for London. He will vacation in England and Scotland this summer.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic sales and distribution chief, and EDWARD L. WALTON, assistant general sales manager, have returned to New York from Chicago.

•

MARVIN SCHENCK, Loew's vice-president and Eastern studio representative, will leave here Friday for the Coast.

•

AGNES MCLAUGHLIN of the Warner New York exchange is celebrating her silver anniversary with the company.

•

FRED HELLIN, vice-president and sales manager for Astor Pictures has returned here after visiting Philadelphia and Washington exchanges.

•

GEORGE A. HICKEY, M-G-M Coast sales manager, is back at the Los Angeles exchange after vacationing in Palm Springs.

•

ERIC JOHNSTON, MPA president, and his party arrived in Brussels yesterday by plane from New York.

•

ERNEST EMERLING, Loew's advertising-publicity head, is visiting in Boston and Providence this week.

Six Are Promoted By RKO's Schwartz

Sol A. Schwartz, general manager of RKO Theatres, has made the following promotions, all to become effective, Monday, June 30: Jerry Shinbach from city manager at Columbus, O., to assistant division manager, Chicago; Max Mink, from manager of the Fordham, New York, to city manager, at Cleveland; Lou Lutz from manager of the Uptown, Detroit, to city manager in Grand Rapids.

In addition, Joseph Goetz will function as RKO field representative, reporting directly to the home office. Harry Schreiber has been transferred from Cleveland to city manager in Columbus, while Walter Ahrens will replace Lutz in Detroit.

Mary Pickford Still Mulling U.A. Changes

The situation involving the sale of United Artists or the appointment of new management for the company by its present owners remained unchanged yesterday.

A spokesman for Mary Pickford, who has postponed her scheduled departure for the Coast indefinitely, said that no further development is expected before tomorrow. Miss Pickford is said to be studying revisions in the offer to purchase the company made by Si Fabian, theatre operator, although those close to the situation still are of the opinion that she has no intention of selling. Meanwhile, her decision on the appointment of Tom J. Connors, former vice-president of 20th Century-Fox, as U.A. president is in abeyance.

Newsreel Parade

HIGHLIGHT of current newsreels is the passing of the Taft-Hartley bill. The oil tanker explosion in Los Angeles harbor, a new air speed record and miscellaneous sports are among other items covered. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 86—Los Angeles harbor rocked by explosion as gas tanker burns. Congress passes bill over President Truman's veto. War commanders on peacetime jobs: Gen. MacArthur and Gen. Clark. Gov. Green of Illinois presents first bonus checks. Jet-propelled P-80R sets new world record. Sports: Assault wins, Poughkeepsie regatta. Cowboys bite the dust at Salinas Rodeo.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 284—Film story of Capital battle over labor bill. U. S. jet plane sets new speed mark. The Lauritz Melchiors become American citizens. Spotlight on Gen. MacArthur. Los Angeles blaze wrecks ship in port area. Navy wins rowing classic. Assault, an all-time winner.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 87—Navy unveils world's weirdest airplane. Gen. MacArthur coming home. Navy wins Poughkeepsie regatta. Veto battle makes labor history. Port blast rocks Los Angeles.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 89—Labor bill becomes law. Navy wins 11-crew Poughkeepsie race. Tanker explodes in Los Angeles harbor. P-80R jet plane sets world record. Tucker car unveiled in Chicago.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 50—Labor bill passed over President Truman's veto. Death and destruction stalks waterfront as oil tanker blows up. P-80R sets new air speed record. Navy demonstrates new plane, "The Flying Pancake." Poughkeepsie regatta. Assault wins.

Fairbanks Is Elected A Pathe Director

Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., has been elected a member of the board of directors of Pathe Industries, Inc. at the invitation of Robert R. Young, railroad executive and top Pathe stockholder. Pathe Industries wholly owns Eagle-Lion which is its film producing company, and Pathe Laboratories film processing company.

Fairbanks is an independent producer presently releasing through Universal-International and also stars in his own productions.

National Supply Managers to Meet

NEW ORLEANS, June 24.—A conference of Southern district managers of National Theatre Supply will be held here tomorrow and Thursday at the Roosevelt Hotel. It will be presided over by W. E. Green, president, and Oscar S. Oldknow, vice-president.

Managers attending will be: W. G. Boling, Charlotte; J. C. Brown, Atlanta; T. W. Neely, New Orleans; R. L. Bostick, Memphis-Dallas; J. I. Watkins, Oklahoma City.

Korda Trial Ends

New York Supreme Court Justice Bernard Botein yesterday reserved decision as trial of the breach-of-contract suit filed against Alexander Korda by Laudy Lawrence ended.

Cancella Opens Office

P. J. Cancella will open offices here after July 2 to handle Italian and Polish films.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

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★

M-G-M RELEASES STARTING SEPTEMBER!

"SONG OF LOVE"—Katharine Hepburn, Paul Henreid, Robert Walker · "UNFINISHED DANCE" (Technicolor)—Margaret O'Brien, Cyd Charisse, Karin Booth, Danny Thomas · "MERTON OF THE MOVIES"—Red Skelton · "SONG OF THE THIN MAN"—William Powell, Myrna Loy · "GREEN DOLPHIN STREET"—Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed · "THE BIRDS AND THE BEES" (Technicolor) —Jeanette MacDonald, Jose Iturbi, Jane Powell

★

IN PRODUCTION "THE BIGGEST PARADE OF M-G-M HITS!"

"HIGH WALL"—Robert Taylor, Audrey Totter · "IF WINTER COMES"—Walter Pidgeon, Deborah Kerr, Angela Lansbury · "VIRTUOUS"—Van Johnson, June Allyson · "KILLER McCOY"—Mickey Rooney, Elizabeth Taylor · "ALIAS THE GENTLEMAN"—Wallace Beery, Tom Drake · "CASS TIMBERLANE"—Spencer Tracy, Lana Turner · "KISSING BANDIT" (Technicolor)—Frank Sinatra, Kathryn Grayson "UPWARD TO THE STARS"—Robert Walker, Donna Reed · "ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU" (Technicolor) —Esther Williams, Peter Lawford, Ricardo Montalban, Cyd Charisse, Jimmy Durante · "SPEAK TO ME OF LOVE"—Greer Garson, Walter Pidgeon · "THREE MUSKETEERS" (Technicolor)—Lana Turner, William Powell, Gene Kelly, Van Heflin · "B. F.'s DAUGHTER"—Katharine Hepburn · "HOMECOMING OF ULYSSES"—Clark Gable · "STATE OF THE UNION"—Spencer Tracy, Claudette Colbert · Irving Berlin's "EASTER PARADE" (Technicolor)—Judy Garland, Gene Kelly, Peter Lawford, Cyd Charisse

'Featherbed' Bar Sought in Ohio Bill

COLUMBUS, June 24.—Alleged "featherbedding" practices in theatres, such as standby orchestras and extra stagehands, would be prohibited under terms of the Van Aken labor bill, passed in the Ohio legislature's closing session and now awaiting Gov. Herbert's signature.

Strikes in support of such practices are forbidden. Section No. 2 forbids "any strike to compel an employer to pay money for services not performed or to force employment of any person or persons not required by such employer, or to use material or equipment not required by the employer."

Under the bill, employers are forbidden to interfere in union organization, to use "yellow-dog" contracts, to fire workers for filing charges under the act, and to refuse to bargain collectively. Unions are forbidden to use violence in picketing, to picket illegally or to engage in sympathy, jurisdictional and sitdown strikes or secondary boycotts, or to strike to compel employers to recognize an employee representative not chosen by a majority of the workers.

UK Jurisdictional

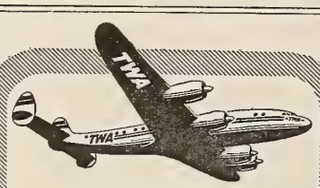
(*Continued from page* 1)

Union, "resolving all jurisdictional differences" between the three unions and defining which class of workers will join the individual unions.

Richard F. Walsh, president of the IATSE, who is visiting here from America, was honor guest at a luncheon given by NATKE, during which he said he will take the agreement to America as a model. Walsh said he hoped the agreement will resolve the Hollywood unions' jurisdictional difficulties.

SOPEG Meet on T-H Law

A special membership meeting to discuss the Taft-Hartley bill's effect on current and future negotiations will be held here tomorrow evening by Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, CIO.



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Review

"Black Gold"

(Allied Artists)

Hollywood, June 24

FIRMLY bulwarking the high prestige which this producing group has already won, this Cinecolor drama of the career of a great Kentucky Derby winning horse, entertainingly and expertly produced, carries an honest guarantee of solid grosses. Different and novel in that its main characters are reservation Indians realistically portrayed with impressive dignity by Anthony Quinn and Katherine DeMille, it also has the sure-fire box-office bait of race horses and two pulse-pumping racing sequences.

Lying fallow in public domain as a ready-made story property since Black Gold sensationally won the 1924 Kentucky Derby for his Indian woman owner, producer Jeffrey Bernerd and his director, Phil Karlson, have given the story a painstaking production that pans every last grain of pay dirt out of the real-life, dramatic story on which it is based. Its moments of poignancy, high exhilaration, humor and tenderly touching husband-and-wife romance might have been weighed on an apothecary's scale, so well do they build and balance the screen story to its thrillingly triumphant climax.

As the reservation Indian owner of Black Gold, Charley Eagle, who never lives to see his beloved horse win the Derby, Anthony Quinn turns in the best performance of his mounting climb to prominence as a screen actor. It is a highly skilled, sincere, almost zealous portrayal of a very difficult role. Shoulder to shoulder, sharing his high acting accomplishment, is Katherine DeMille as Sarah, his Indian wife. The tender byplay of their mutual understanding, respect and love provide the refreshingly different romance of the picture. It is she, as a widow then, who sees Black Gold race to triumph in the Derby, to provide for the picture's finish one of its finest moments.

Ducky Louie, Chinese boy adopted by the Indian couple, and who rides Black Gold to win, also reveals increasing and solid talents as an actor. He takes rank next to the well-known Keye Luke as the best Chinese actor on the screen today.

Following faithfully the real life story, tribulations and triumph of Black Gold and the horse's owners, the film depicts the foaling of the future Derby winner. With loving, confident care Quinn rears the colt to its beautiful thoroughbred maturity, with his Chinese foster son sharing the Indian's affection for the horse. As he trains Black Gold, the Indian envisions winning the Kentucky Derby as the climactic achievement for the love and care lavished on a fine horse. When oil is discovered on his property, the horse is named Black Gold, but fateful circumstances are also set in motion which bring about Quinn's injury at an oil rig, and which eventually causes his death before his beloved horse's victory.

Able character support is given Quinn and Miss DeMille by Kane Richmond, Elyse Knox, Moroni Olsen, Raymond Hatton, Thurston Hall, Charles Trowbridge and Darryl Hickman.

Running time, 92 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, September.

W.J.McG.

'IA' Will Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

strike; the effect on the closed shop feature which exists in most "IA" contracts, and what changes, if any, should be made in union policy because of the bill.

One top official of the union is said to feel that the banning of the closed shop, as written in the bill, will have little practical effect on the "IA," because of the scattered distribution of many "IA" members. For example, he cited the case of two motion picture projectionists working in the same booth of a theatre in small towns. He though it would be highly unlikely that one of the two would be a non-union man.

On the other hand, local "IA" union officials are seriously concerned about the effects of the bill on new organization. They feel that the bill has many restrictions which will hamper the recruiting of new members, and which will also increase friction between employers and employes.

The attitude of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, CIO, toward the new law is shown by a leaflet issued by SOPEG on Monday which declared: "We've Just Begun to Fight."

Finishing 'Blanche Fury'

Anthony Havelock-Allan, executive producer of J. Arthur Rank's "Great Expectations," and one of the three writers responsible for the screenplay of the Dickens story, is finishing "Blanche Fury."

Astor Joins MPA's Childrens' Program

Astor Pictures, which owns rights to a large number of pictures produced in the past by major companies, has joined the Motion Picture Association's Childrens' Film Library program. Astor's joining brings to three the number of non-major companies now participating, the others being Republic and Monogram. It is understood that Film Classics will also join.

MPA invited Astor and Film Classics to participate in the program because both companies hold rights to a large number of reissues suitable for children.

Astor has made immediately available to the program's preview committee the following films: "Swiss Family Robinson," "Little Men," "Terror of Tinytown," "Children of the Wild," "Titans of the Deep," "Silver Devil," "Fangs of the Wild" and "Tom Brown's School Days."

Cleveland Variety Party

CLEVELAND, June 24.—July 21 is the date set for the Variety Club golf tournament, to be held at the Beechmont Country Club, the first since 1941. Nat Wolf, Warner zone manager, is general chairman, with Tony Stern and Peter Bathory in charge of tickets; Louis Ratener, treasurer; Sam Abrams, prizes; Nat Barach, entertainment, and J. Knox Strachan, publicity.

Trammell Describes New Video System

WASHINGTON, June 24. — Development of a "revolutionary system" of high-speed communications, with a potential for handling more than 1,000,000 words a minute, was disclosed here by Niles Trammell, president of National Broadcasting.

An outgrowth of television, the new system is being developed by RCA and has been tentatively referred to as Ultrafax. Utilizing microwave radio relays, the system could transmit letters, business documents, newspapers, magazines and books, while simultaneously carrying ordinary telephone speech and telegrams. It can also be used to provide an intercity network for television as well as standard and FM broadcast programs, it was said.

Each printed page is treated as a frame of a television picture, Trammell added, and flashed in rapid succession. At the receiving end, the pages are reproduced by a new high-speed photographic process for quick delivery. RCA expects to demonstrate the system publicly this summer, he stated.

Trammell outlined the system during testimony before a Senate commerce subcommittee holding hearings on the bill to rewrite the Federal Communications Act. His purpose was to highlight the changes possible in broadcasting, and the need for taking these changes into account in drafting any new communications law.

Philco Televisor Has Front Projection

A new television receiver projecting a picture 15-by-20 inches and claimed to be brighter than previous projection receivers has been demonstrated by Philco Corp.

The set employs a new system, the pictures being projected upon the screen from the front instead of through the screen from the rear.

Alexander Answers FTC

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Alexander Films, one of four advertising film companies cited by the Federal Trade Commission for restraint of trade, has filed an answer with the Commission, denying any guilt.

According to FTC spokesmen, Alexander's answer was "substantially the same" as those filed last week by two other companies. All three stated that their contracts were legal and not monopolistic.

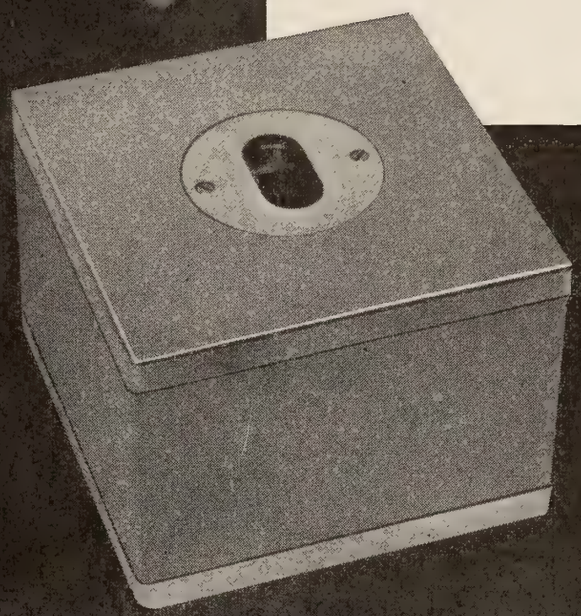
Nelson To Speak to NAB

WASHINGTON, June 24. — Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will attend the National Association of Broadcasters' "freedom of expression" meeting Thursday. Present also at the one-day meeting will be Kenneth Clark, representing the Motion Picture Association, and key persons in the fields of broadcasting, newspapers, magazines, and book publishing.

Get Video Relay License

WASHINGTON, June 24. — Balaban and Katz, Chicago, have been granted a license to cover the conversion of their experimental television broadcast station to an experimental television relay broadcast station, the Federal Communications Commission has announced.

For the *best* in motion picture sound...



the new *Western Electric* magnetically sealed light valve

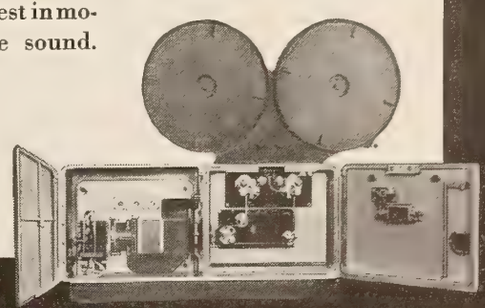
Magnetically sealed light valves are an outstanding feature of the new line of Western Electric recording equipment.

These new type valves, a triumph of precision in design and manufacture, are nevertheless small and rugged, and provide the highest degree of recording efficiency ever achieved.

Magnetic sealing keeps dust and foreign material out permanently. And you get *stable* operating characteristics regardless of temperature changes, for the various materials in the valve have compensating coefficients of expansion.

Other advantages are improved optics and better damping of the ribbons, which reduces the resonant peak to small proportions.

The magnetically sealed valve is one of numerous reasons why Western Electric means the best in motion picture sound.



The Western Electric 400 Series leads a new line of sound recording equipment. Records standard or 200 mil push-pull track.

Electrical Research Products Division
OF
Western Electric Company
INCORPORATED
233 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 7, N. Y.
Hollywood Office—6601 Romaine Street

Ohio Owners Aided By Cut in Job Tax

COLUMBUS, June 24.—Thousands of dollars will be saved by Ohio theatre owners annually under the terms of amended Senate bill No. 112, passed by the legislature and expected to be signed by Gov. Herbert. The bill provides a cut of approximately 50 per cent in the state unemployment tax.

Other employer benefits include: provision for payment of benefits to those who quit jobs voluntarily only if the resignation is for just cause; provision for immediate notice to the last employer on claims filed so that he can offer back the same or another job; clarification of the definition of "marital obligations" by adding the words, "parental, filial or other domestic"; provision for monthly statement of charge-back to employers upon written request (giving an employer an up-to-date picture of his benefit account and permitting him to offer jobs to former workers.

Goldberg Will Launch Ohio Tax Fight Today

CLEVELAND, June 24.—Harry Goldberg, head of Warner publicity-exploitation, will conduct a meeting of local industry members in the Motion Picture Exhibitor Association headquarters, here, tomorrow, to discuss plans to combat any local amusement taxes that might be proposed to take the place of the state three per cent amusement tax which was recently repealed.

L. Foeldes, U-I Sales Head in Europe, Dies

Louis Foeldes, 53, general sales manager in Europe for Universal-International since Aug., 1945, died suddenly in Paris on June 19, according to word received at the U-I home office here yesterday.

Foeldes entered the industry in 1926 in Hungary and had been associated with U-I since 1938 when he was appointed supervisor for Eastern Europe. He leaves a widow.

WB's May Stringer Dies

Funeral services were held yesterday at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Brooklyn, for May Stringer, Warner Brothers home office receptionist, who died on Saturday in her home in Brooklyn. Miss Stringer was the oldest Warner receptionist in years of service, having started with the company 24 years ago.

Services for Elliott

ALBANY, N. Y., June 24.—Funeral services were held today for Fred Elliott, who conducted the Clinton Square Theatre before sound, one of the city's best-known houses. He died Saturday. Surviving are the widow and three children.

Film Rentals in Ohio Remain Tax-Exempt

Columbus, June 24. — Exemption of film rentals from the Ohio sales or use tax will be continued, following passage of House Bill No. 453 which extends the exemption granted two years ago.

It was feared, prior to passage of the bill, that repeal of the admission tax would cause the sales or use tax to be reimposed. Gov. Herbert is expected to sign the bill.

Enterprise Meeting Opens on the Coast

HOLLYWOOD, June 24.—George Schaefer, Enterprise vice-president, at the opening of the company's first annual meeting, forecast today a global return of $32,000,000 from the $11,000,000 invested in Enterprise's first five pictures. He estimated that "Ramrod," its curtain-raiser, would total 14,000 play-dates.

In a speech emphasizing various challenges from other forms of entertainment, David L. Loew, board chairman, stressed that along with increased leisure time is the mounting competition from radio, television, road tours by stage plays, expanded travel opportunities, opportunities afforded by new cars and reduced restrictions. He pledged that Enterprise would adhere to "a code which calls for the highest possible standards of good taste without sacrificing one iota of entertainment value."

The Enterprise meetings will continue for the remainder of the week.

Warner Bookers Join Zone Managers' Talks

Warner bookers and buyers attended the company's home office zone theatre managers' meeting conducted here yesterday by Harry M. Kalmine, president and general manager of Warner Theatres.

Bookers and buyers who attended were: Max Freidman, Albany; Sam Blaskey, Newark; Max Hoffman, New Haven; Tony Stern, Cleveland; Alex Halperin, Chicago; John Turner, Philadelphia; Harry Feinstein, Pittsburgh, and George Crouch, Washington.

RKO Would Rent Disney Coast Studios

RKO Radio has been negotiating with Walt Disney Productions to rent the Disney studios on the Coast, it was disclosed here yesterday.

A spokesman for Disney said that dickering has been going on for several months. The Disney firm has 55 acres of studio production space, and, according to the spokesman, uses sound stages only two months annually.

Paramount Steaks Revive 'Pauline'

Paramount was host yesterday to approximately 150 newspaper, magazine, trade press and radio representatives at an old-fashioned beefsteak dinner at the Hotel Astor here preceding a screening of "Perils of Pauline" at the Comet Theatre, said to be one of New York's oldest film houses.

A home office delegation was headed by Barney Balaban, Paramount president; Leonard Goldenson, vice-president, and their guest, A. H. Blank of Tri-State Theatres, Des Moines, who is visiting in New York.

Milton Berle, who claimed to be an alumnus of the original "Perils of Pauline" and offered his jokes to prove it, was master-of-ceremonies at the dinner and introduced the following bona fide associates of the Pearl White original: Ray Walker, composer of the song, "Poor Pauline"; Harry Woods, Mrs. Violet Woods, Sidney Blackmer, Dan Courtney and Peter Barbier, members of the original cast, and Donald Mackenzie, director.

Express Favor for 'Junior Admissions'

MINNEAPOLIS, June 24.—Announcement by Minnesota Amusement Co. that reduced junior admission prices would be established in its Loop and suburban Twin Cities theatres has brought "great favorable reaction" from the public, Harry B. French, president, reports.

"Telephone calls and letters from parents and junior theatre patrons alike indicate the public realizes the benefits they will derive from the new junior admission prices," French stated, adding that "if we are to judge from praise we have received for launching this program, the junior plan will be the most welcome move" in many years.

'Wyoming' Premiere In Cheyenne Today

Republic's "Wyoming" will have its world premiere at the Lincoln and Paramount theatres in Cheyenne, Wyo., today, marking the annual Cheyenne Frontier Days celebration.

A two-day reception for Republic stars William Elliott and Vera Ralston and others from the cast will include parades, broadcasts, inductions into Indian tribes and other events.

F. H. Ricketson, president of Fox Intermountain Theatres, Denver, was host to the Republic party in Denver. Following the premiere, "Wyoming" will have 60 day-and-date engagements throughout the Rocky Mountain area.

Para. Outing Today

Paramount personnel will attend their annual outing today at the New Longshore Country Club, Westport, Conn.

$639,500 Grossed by 'Expectations' Here

First British film to play the Music Hall here since "Clouds Over Europe," eight years ago, J. Arthur Rank's "Great Expectations" will conclude a five-week engagement at the theatre tonight with a gross of $639,500. Oddly, Valerie Hobson is the star of both films.

New York Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

week. And "Miracle on 34th Street," with a stage show, is still showing plenty of power at the Roxy where $94,000 is seen for a third week.

J. Arthur Rank's "Great Expectations" will wind up a splendid five week engagement at the Music Hall tonight. The final week's revenue should hit $120,000; "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir" opens there tomorrow.

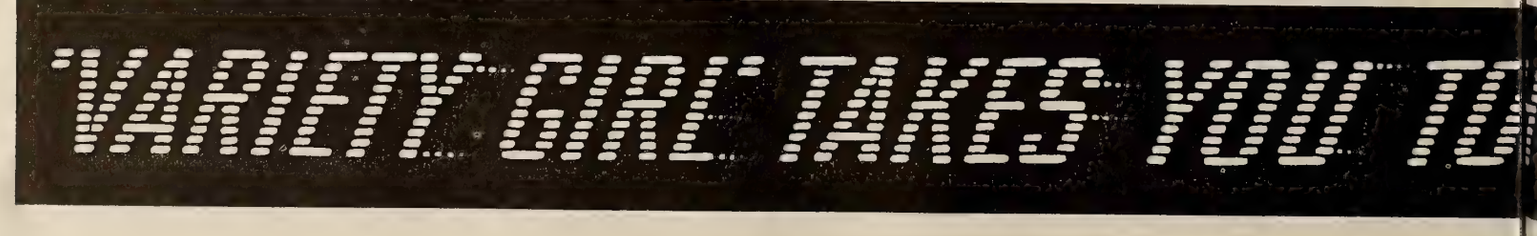
In its return Broadway engagement "Duel in the Sun" is likely to provide the Victoria with a handsome $20,000 for a second week. The third and final week of "The Web" gave the Criterion a fair $18,000, estimated; "Ivy" will open there today.

At the Astor, "The Best Years of Our Lives" slipped a little in its 30th week with $25,000 apparent, which is still good business but a little under the previous week's income. "It Happened on Fifth Avenue" is encountering some difficulty at the Rivoli where $15,000 is indicated for a second week. Eagle-Lion's "Repeat Performance" is due next, to open there on July 1.

Third and final week of "Cheyenne," with Ted Lewis on stage, probably will provide the Strand with a fair $35,000; "The Unfaithful" will open on Friday. "Riff Raff" will bow in at the Palace on Saturday following "Woman on the Beach" which appears headed for a mild $12,500 in its second and final week.

"Henry V" is holding up well at the Broadway where the third week will bring in $20,000. The Capitol's "High Barbaree," with Guy Lombardo's orchestra on stage probably will conclude a third and final week tonight with $41,000, which is moderate; "Fiesta" will follow tomorrow.

"Possessed," at the Hollywood, is good for $23,000 in a fourth week, while "Private Affairs of Bel Ami," at the Globe, is down to an estimated $10,000 in a second and final week; the Globe's next will be "Ramrod," slated to make its debut on Saturday. "Drums Along the Mohawk" and "Swanee River" will complete second and final week at the Gotham with about $8,500, not too good: it will be succeeded on Friday by another reissue combination, "South of Pango Pango" and "The Corsican Brothers." "A Lady Surrenders" and 35 minutes of newsreels were not too successful at the Park where $6,000 is anticipated in a first week.



House Approves US Overseas Program

WASHINGTON, June 24.—After three eeks of delay and debate, the ouse today approved by a 272-to- vote the Mundt bill to authorize e State Department overseas infor- ation program.

The bill provides for the Depart- ent to use private resources wher- ossible, and sets up an 11-man VOL 1, including a film representa- ve, to make policy decisions and enerally supervise the program.

The House vote was almost aca- emic, however, since Senate leaders ave decided to shelve the bill. In- ead, they favor a stop-gap appro- riation. The full Senate appropria- ons committee today approved a rant of $13,000,000 for the State De- artment's overseas information pro- ram during the coming fiscal year, ncluding $800,000 for the motion icture division. The Department had equested $37,000,000, including $3,- 00,000 for film activities.

Cut in Funds Would Halt Agriculture Dept. Films

WASHINGTON, June 24.—No films ill be produced in the coming fiscal ear by the Department of Agricul- ure's motion picture unit if the pres- nt agriculture appropriations bill asses the Senate, according to Ches- er Lindstrom head of the unit.

Funds granted in the present bill ould permit the motion picture unit nly to take care of its services and omplete eight films on which produc- ion was started this year.

All projects which were under con- ideration have been cancelled, Lind- trom stated.

Kositsky, Shumsker In New PRC Posts

Stanley Kositsky has joined Pro- ducers Releasing Corp. as Philadelphia alesman, under branch manager Sam . Diamond, it was announced by Ralph Clark, general sales manager.

Sidney Shumsker, Army veteran, as also joined Producers Releasing, s a salesman in Boston branch, where e will work under manager A. J. ecke.

UK Film Imports

(*Continued from page* 1)

xports to a reasonable level. On une 3, MOTION PICTURE DAILY re- orted that the British Treasury De- artment was planning to reduce the notion picture mutual exchange de- iciency existing between this country nd the U. S.

The enabling powers, however, will ot be put into operation in the event a satisfactory return in terms of Brit- sh screenings in America is forth- oming.

Meanwhile, a congested House of Commons Parliamentary program will revent discussion of the proposal to- lay, but an early debate is deemed nevitable.

"Crossfire"

(*Continued from page* 1)

Catholicism which Robert Young, detective-captain of Irish antecedents, grimly highlights from his own family history.

Reception appears uncertain because there is no precedent upon which to draw. To understand how hard-hitting and how direct "Crossfire," is, it is well to repeat that no punches are pulled. There are no dodges in dialogue, and no vaguely maintained allusions which suspend the spectator in doubts. This amounts to an essentially new experience against which reactions are difficult to forecast. There will be ardent supporters, and we hope many theatremen and vast audiences. Inevitably, too, there will be those with a contrary viewpoint predicated on their conviction that this is subject matter too delicate to expect proper digestion from mass audiences.

The stalwart creators of this attraction undertake a direct story relying on overtones and meanings to generate suspense and power. Sam Levene, Okinawa veteran returned to civilian life, is found beaten to death in his apartment. Young, the detective, is assigned to the case. In a series of flashbacks, each primary witness—each a soldier—gives his version. Robert Ryan, who just doesn't like Jews or those who like Jews, gives one. George Cooper, confused and muddled artist long separated from his wife and seriously involved circumstantially, gives another.

Out of the crossfire, Young decides what the audience will have long concluded: that Ryan is the killer, driven to one murder—probably unpremeditated—for no more valid reason than uncontrolled prejudice and to another to cover his tracks. Cornered, he makes a break and is killed in the attempt.

The trappings are good and production quality expert. Dialogue is pungent, performances on a high level, direction absorbing and theme explosive. Carrying the line, "Dore Schary presents", this is the first from Schary's regime as production head of RKO Radio studios.

Running time, 86 minutes. General audience classification. Release in block No. 7.

RED KANN.

Chicago Court

(*Continued from page* 1)

the decree, the court said: "The plaintiffs (Jackson Park) seek by the decree a favored fixed position in the scheme which they have sought to destroy. The plaintiffs have a right to compete for any playing position, but they have no right to be awarded and protected by decree in any certain position."

"This does not appear to us," the court said of the provision, "as using the decree to destroy the conspiracy, but rather to preserve the evil in the interest of the plaintiffs."

New York attorneys interpreted that part of the decision to mean that B. and K. henceforth would be required to bid competitively for pictures.

All other provisions of the original Jackson Park Theatre decree were affirmed by the court

Britain Withdraws New $100,000,000

Washington, June 24.—Continuing with accelerated withdrawals, Britain has withdrawn another $100,000,000 from the U. S. Loan, the Treasury reported today. Accumulated withdrawals to date on the loan are $2,050,000,000. Treasury officials expect no further withdrawals this fiscal year.

Britain has so far used up in a little less than one year the amount of money originally planned to cover two.

NJ Allied Convention

(*Continued from page* 1)

proximately 90 per cent of the membership of N. J. Allied has subscribed to a master contract on pictures sponsored by National Allied. He did not describe the contract further other than to say it is "pending."

Lachman told the meeting that he and National Allied president Jack Kirsch had met with representatives of Confidential Reports and "resolved many complaints between Confidential and exhibitors." He added that "today we feel that such complaints are at a minimum."

Jersey Allied has been negotiating for a candy deal "which will be beneficial to the membership and will bring revenue to the organization," Lachman said.

He assured the meeting that the organization is prepared to combat any change in the proposed increase in the Ascap theatre seat tax, and said that that matter as well as resolutions opposing bingo and the presentation of 16mm. films in hotels and taverns in competition with established theatres will be discussed in detail before the convention adjourns. Tomorrow and Thursday the convention will hold open-forum meetings, with Kirsch, Irving Dollinger and Lachman acting as moderators.

Dr. Allen B. DuMont, president of Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, Passaic, N. J., in an outline of television possibilities for theatres, predicted at the convention that the first application will be the showing of important sports events, many of which occur in the afternoon when attendance is low. He added that immediate news events could be televised and appended to newsreels.

Claims 68 Millions in Dollar Remittances

London, June 24. — Questioned in the House of Commons, Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer declared that the average annual dollar remittance to U. S. film companies during 1944-45-46 was slightly over 17,000,000 pounds (about $68,000,000).

Remittances from the U. S. for British films were relatively small, he added. Asked for actual American remittances to Britain, Dalton said he would rather not give totals until he can secure actual figures.

Dissolutions

(*Continued from page* 1)

an end a pool involving four theatres in Pittsburgh. Warners now operates its Warner and Strand Theatres there, and Loew's has taken over the Penn and Ritz.

Warners has withdrawn its Ohio Theatre, Mansfield, O., from a pool with William N. Skirball's Mansfield and Ritz houses. Warners had operated the three.

At 20th Century-Fox it was said that at the last count the company's theatre subsidiary, National Theatres, has made progress in dissolving 30 pools in Milwaukee, Kansas City, Denver, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Paramount's pooled theatre operations are about at an end, a spokesman said, but details were not made available.

HOLLYWOOD, June 24.—Fox West Coast Theatres today turned over to its former partners the operation of 10 pooled theatres in California, and will complete transfer of three more by July 1, Charles P. Skouras, president, announced tonight. Theatres affected are: the Leimert and United Artists, Los Angeles; Rialto, San Francisco; Alhambra, Sacramento; California, Ontario; Nile, Bakersfield; Aztec, Mission and Plaza, San Diego and the Golden State, Riverside.

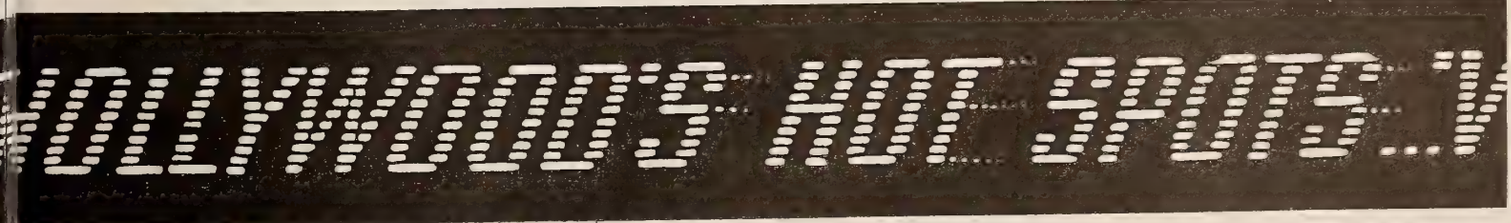
By July 1, the Garfield in Alhambra, Cal., Orpheum in Yuma, Ariz., and the Alto in Los Angeles will be transferred. Previously, five other theatres in this state had reverted to partners, while Fox West Coast resumed management of five houses.

Weisfeldt Named

(*Continued from page* 1)

successor to Weisfeldt in his former post.

Weschler, who has been in motion picture distribution for many years, formerly was associated with United Artists, Walt Disney Productions and RKO Radio. Weisfeldt, who has been with Eagle-Lion since its inception nine months ago, formerly was with Columbia Pictures' sales department.



HATS OFF... to a star-blazing ACTION MUSICAL!





COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

SWING THE WESTERN WAY



with

THE HOOSIER HOTSHOTS

(Hezzie, Ken, Gil and Gabe)

JACK LEONARD • MARY DUGAN

THURSTON HALL • REGINA WALLACE

JERRY WALD AND HIS ORCHESTRA

JOHNNY BOND • THE CREW CHIEFS



Screenplay by Barry Shipman

Directed by DERWIN ABRAHAMS • Produced by COLBERT CLARK

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 124 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1947 TEN CENTS

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA, 28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL. NEW YORK, N. Y. (3 COPIES)

ATA, MPTOA Join in Tax Slash Program

Coyne Says a 10% Levy Will Be Definitely Sought

Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America will definitely join with the American Theatres Association in filing proposals for a Federal admission tax reduction with the House Ways and Means Committee in Washington, Robert W. Coyne, ATA executive director, disclosed here yesterday, following meetings with Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel.

The tax-slashing plan, it is said, will be replete with estimates of theatre grosses during the last five years, Government revenue derived from exhibition in the past, estimates of yields in the event the proposals are accepted, and other data. It will bear the signatures of Ted R. Gamble, ATA board chairman, and Julian Brylawski, MPTOA vice-president. Both appeared before the House group last month. Final decision on joint action, which had been under consideration

(*Continued on page* 8)

U.S.-Sweden Accord Keeps Import Quota

WASHINGTON, June 25.—Terms of the recently-concluded trade accord between Sweden and the U. S. provide for Swedish importation of the same amount during the next year as for last year and special treatment for imports mentioned in the 1935 agreement, it was announced here today.

The U. S. further recognizes the right of Sweden to apply import restrictions, under the terms of the pact. A conference will be held soon to permit unlimited film imports, with a limitation on remittances permitted. Swedish officials have promised that all restrictions will be removed "as soon as possible."

Rains, Flash Floods Close Neb. Theatres

OMAHA, June 25.—Heavy rains and flash floods have caused millions of dollars in damage in this territory, closing some theatres, washing out

(*Continued on page* 8)

Unger Sets 3-Day Meet

J. J. Unger, United Artists' general sales manager, has called a three-day district managers' sales conference to be held on Tuesday through Thursday, July 8-10, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.

Unger will conduct the meeting, assisted by Edward M. Schnitzer, Eastern and Canadian sales manager, and Maury Orr, Western sales manager. The meeting will be attended by district managers, home office executives and members of the home office sales staff. A review of the company's current and forthcoming product and discussions on sales policy will top the agenda.

District managers attending will be: Clayton Eastman, New England; Jack Ellis, New York; Mark N. Silver, Pennsylvania - Washington;

(*Continued on page* 8)

U. S. Warns of Drop In Exports by Jan. 1

WASHINGTON, June 25.—The Department of Commerce today predicted the possibility of a decline in U. S. exports before the end of the year to the rate at which foreign countries are using up their dollar exchange.

Exports are expected to remain large in the second quarter of the year

(*Continued on page* 6)

MPA Delays Report On Theatre Survey

Washington, June 25.—Publication of a statistical report on exhibition in the Buffalo exchange area, originally scheduled for the end of this month by the research division of the Motion Picture Association has been postponed until mid-July. Revisions in the report necessitated postponement, an MPA spokesmen said here today.

MPA's research department expects to issue at intervals reports on all film exchange areas in the country.

Lawrence Settles Suit Against Korda

The breach - of - contract action brought by Laudy Lawrence against Sir Alexander Korda was settled before Justice Bernard Botein in New York Supreme Court yesterday with payment of 30,000 preference shares of Korda's London Film Productions, Ltd., stock at face value of one pound per share ($120,000) and $17,500 in cash to Lawrence.

Lawrence originally asked for the block of stock in addition to over $300,000 which he said was due him under the terms of his pact which was terminated two-and-a-half years before its expiration date. During the

(*Continued on page* 6)

New 20th-Fox Policy Is Set For Late Runs

Some Films Available At 15%, Others Flat

By RED KANN

ATLANTIC CITY, June 25. — Twentieth Century-Fox, in a wide reversal of policy, will aid small town exhibitions and the sub-subsequent runs in larger situations under a policy which A. W. Smith, newly appointed general sales manager, declared could send film rentals as low as 15 per cent and not beyond 40 per cent.

The plan, which will be adopted experimentally in New Haven June 30, and nationally thereafter, if it proves successful there, provides that exhibitors in the categories defined, are to play not less than two and not more than five attractions on percentages while the rest of the company's program will be available on flat rental.

Road shows—like "Forever Amber" and "Captain from Castile"—are outside the formula.

For the attractions which play per-

(*Continued on page* 8)

NCA to Demand US Probe: Berger Says

ATLANTIC CITY, June 25.—Declaring that all efforts at amicable negotiation for a more liveable policy of distribution had failed, Benny Berger, North Central Allied president, told the opening session of New Jersey Allied here today that the *Washington Post*, probably on Monday, would carry a full-page advertisement in the form of an open letter calling upon President Truman and Congress to

(*Continued on page* 8)

'IA' Office Employes Get $235,000 at WB

Wage increases totaling approximately $235,000 a year have been granted 750 Warner home office employes and 150 employes of four WB subsidiaries as a result of an agreement reached yesterday by the company and the Motion Picture Home

(*Continued on page* 8)

World Film Festivals Proposed by Johnston

BRUSSELS, June 26.—Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston today urged an annual international film festival "to strengthen the ties of friendship and understanding among us."

Johnston said that all world film capitals should have their turns as hosts for the festivals, which would "bring together the best in motion pictures from all over the world."

He spoke at a luncheon attended by members of the Belgian cabinet and representatives of nations participating in the Brussels World Film Festival. The luncheon was sponsored jointly by MPA and the Belgian-American Society.

Johnston pledged his support for a "greater, freer interchange of films among nations," adding that although

(*Continued on page* 6)

Rank Gets Interest In 53 More Houses

London, June 25.—The J. Arthur Rank Organization has entered into a partnership with Ceylon Theatres, Ltd., which gives Rank holdings in 53 more theatres abroad. Ceylon Theatres also produces films, in Tamil and Singhalese.

Rank's John Davis said here: "The new deal is in accord with a policy laid down by Rank. We intend to ensure a successful showing of Britain's films throughout the world."

Personal Mention

MURRAY SILVERSTONE, 20th Century-Fox International president, will sail for Europe July 2 on the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

•

TOM BALDRIDGE, M-G-M exchange promotional representative in Washington, D. C., heads the board of trustees of Jaycee War Memorial Fund. He was elected at the annual meeting of the U. S. Junior Chamber of Commerce in Long Beach, Cal.

•

J. CARLO BAVETTA and WILLIAM W. SULLIVAN, who recently were appointed 20th Century-Fox district managers in South American areas, have joined EDWARD D. COHEN, Latin America supervisor, here for home office talks.

•

BERNIE KAMBER, Eastern advertising-publicity head for Benedict Bogeaus Prod., will leave here today to open his summer resort, the Wayne Country Club at Tyler Hill, Pa.

•

MAURICE N. WOLF, M-G-M exhibitor relations executive, will address a Junior Chamber of Commerce luncheon in Omaha today.

•

HARRY KOSINER, Eastern representative for Edward Small Productions, will leave for the Coast by air today for product talks.

•

FRANK ROSENBERG will leave here for the Coast tomorrow to start work on "Man Eaters of Kumaon," which U-I will release.

•

MOE KERMAN of Favorite Films will leave New York today for Chicago to attend a franchise holders' meeting there.

•

O. C. JOHNSON, assistant engineering chief of Westrex Corp., will leave here today on a 16-week tour of Latin America.

•

BUCK STONER, 20th Century-Fox Western district sales manager, is covering the Pacific Northwest exchanges.

•

RICHARD DE ROCHEMONT, March of Time producer, is scheduled to arrive here today by plane from Europe.

•

N. E. SAVINI, assistant to R. M. SAVINI of Astor Pictures, is visiting the Midwest exchanges.

•

ROBERT W. RIMER has joined Producers Releasing Corp. as booker in the Memphis branch.

•

NORMAN H. MORAY, short subject sales chief for Warner, has returned here from the studio.

•

MORT NATHANSON of the Paramount home office publicity staff is in Detroit.

•

SAM CLARK of the Warner studio publicity department is in town.

UA Answers FTC Charges on 'Blimp'

United Artists' experience with "The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp" was not a happy one, the company asserts in its answer to the Federal Trade Commission's complaint that deceptive advertising was used in promotion of the British-made picture.

The FTC, which should have the answer in today's mail, from UA here, charged the picture was screened for the press and others in its original two-hour, 28-minute version and publicity was favorable, but subsequently cuts were made and not announced.

UA used "diverse and sundry means of advertising," the producer made deletions making the picture more "merchantable and entertaining," but the distribution contract with General Film Distributors, Ltd., still resulted in operations in the red, the company states. Total rentals as of June 7, 1947, amounted to $276,495 and against this were charges of prints and advertising amounting to $287,559, UA informs the FTC.

The releasing pact dictated that UA could make no deletions except those demanded by censors without consent of the British company, UA says. Theatremen refused to license the picture unless it was materially shortened, the statement discloses, and when it finally was abbreviated to one hour and 31 minutes some exhibitors agreed to play it, others paid the license fee and were relieved from the obligation of exhibiting it.

A hearing will be held July 18 if the FTC finds the answer to its charges inadequate.

Petrillo Hearings Set for July 7

WASHINGTON, June 25.—The House Labor Committee's public hearings on alleged restrictive practices by James Petrillo and his American Federation of Musicians will open on July 7. Hearings are expected to run over a three-week period and several Hollywood figures will be subpoenaed to testify on Petrillo's film activities, according to a committee official.

The hearings were originally scheduled for June 30, but were postponed to give Petrillo, who will be the first witness, additional time to prepare a statement. Rep. Kearns, chairman of the sub-committee which will hold the hearings, recently returned from an investigation on the West Coast.

Way Cleared for W.B. $6,000,000 Building

HOLLYWOOD, June 25.—The Burbank City Council yesterday granted a Warner request for the vacating of certain streets adjacent to the company's studio in preparation for a $6,000,000 building program to include a 12-story administration building and 10 sound stages. Warners have owned the 23-acre tract concerned for several years. No date for construction has been set.

Hint Bill to Create U.S. Censorship

Washington, June 25.—Rumors that a bill for nationwide censorship may be introduced in Congress shortly gained currency here today, with Rep. Rankin, author of a bill to ban "Duel in the Sun" from the District of Columbia, asserting that he "wouldn't be surprised" if a measure to that effect is introduced.

Settle 2 More Illinois Percentage Suits

CHICAGO, June 25.—Two additional suits filed against the Anderson Theatre Circuit, Morris, Ill., in May, 1946, by Loew's and Warner Brothers have been settled, it was announced here this morning by Miles Seeley, attorney for the plaintiffs.

The two, plus those settled earlier by United Artists and Universal, leave Paramount, RKO and 20th Century-Fox as the only distributors not yet agreed on a settlement of the suits brought on bv a dispute over unreported percentage receipts on films shown in seven Illinois theatres owned by Anderson.

Although Seeley would not disclose the amount of today's settlements, and declined to make a statement on the possibilities of settlement of the other suits, it is believed that an agreement will soon be reached.

Honor McNamee at Testimonial Dinner

PHILADELPHIA, June 25.—A testimonial dinner was held here last night for Frank L. McNamee, who has just resigned as director of the War Assets Administration. McNamee will return to his motion picture business.

McNamee was presented with the Medal of Merit from President Truman as well as a Certificate of Merit from General Robert M. Littlejohn, national WAA administrator. Mayor Bernard Samuel joined U. S. Senator Francis J. Myers and Gen. Norman D. Cota in sending messages.

Nelson Heads SIMPP Music Subsidiary

HOLLYWOOD, June 25.—Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, has been elected president of the newly-formed Independent Producers' Music Corp., which has been formed to handle all SIMPP activities in connection with a permanently-maintained orchestra and other music activities.

Close W.B. Home Meet

The two-day Warner circuit zone managers' meeting closed here yesterday after discussion of current operational matters and new product. Harry M. Kalmine, president and general manager of the circuit, presided.

First Clearance Case Is Filed in 68 Days

One of the longest periods of nationwide inactivity in the filing of clearance complaints—68 days—was broken yesterday when T. and J. Markoff placed a bid for 30 days clearance after first-run in Hartford with the New Haven arbitration board.

Complaint was filed against the five majors and carries the assertion that Markoffs' Moodus Theatre, Moodus, Conn., and the East Hampton Theatre, at East Hampton, Conn., have considerable difficulty in booking due to alleged lateness in buying by the Middlesex and Capitol theatres of Middletown.

The Markoffs point out that at present both of their theatres are forced to play pictures from 60 to 150 days old.

Set 28 Days' Clearance for Portsmouth, R. I., Theatre

BOSTON, June 25.—Clearance of 28 days after first-run theatres in Fall River, Mass., has been established for Orville O. Smith's Island Theatre, Portsmouth, R. I., by the Boston arbitration tribunal in an award made in settlement of Smith's complaint against the five majors. The tribunal ruled that clearance for the Island Theatre should stem from Fall River, and not from Newport, R. I.

British Information Merges Film Division

Amalgamation of the departments here handling films, film strips, photographic displays, publications and speakers was disclosed yesterday by British Information Service.

The new division will be headed by R. H. K. Marett, director, who will be assisted by Thomas Hodge, deputy director.

'Labs' Honor McMahon

In recognition of his services as chairman of the industry employers' negotiating committee, Joseph E. McMahon of Consolidated Film Industries was presented with an inscribed gavel and a brief case at a dinner given this week at the New York Athletic Club by the laboratories. A two-year agreement with Laboratory Technicians Local 702, IATSE, has been signed.

Ludwig on FP-C Deal

TORONTO, June 25.—Irving Ludwig, handling "Fantasia" for Walt Disney Productions, has arrived here from New York to confer with J. J. Fitzgibbons, head of Famous Players-Canadian, and Leo Devaney, Canadian division manager for RKO Radio, regarding the dating of "Fantasia" over the Dominion-wide FP-C circuit.

W.B. Changes Theatre

The name of the Hollywood Theatre on Broadway, here, will be changed to the Warner Theatre on Aug. 15 when "Life With Father" will open there.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



You'll See 150 spots before your eyes July 4th

WARNERS present - AND SENSATIONALLY!

ANN SHERIDAN

LEW AYRES

ZACHARY SCOTT

"THE UNFAITHFUL"

with EVE ARDEN · STEVEN GERAY

Directed by VINCENT SHERMAN · Produced by JERRY WALD

ORIGINAL SCREEN PLAY BY DAVID GOODIS AND JAMES GUNN • MUSIC BY MAX STEINER

No. 3 OF A SERIES

EXHIBITORS SAID IT—THEN THE TRADE PRESS—
NOW NATIONAL MAGAZINES ALL CHORUS "YES!—

'GOING-MY-WAY' DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN!"

LOUELLA PARSONS awards it The Citation of the Month in Cosmopolitan Magazine.

PARENTS' MAGAZINE honors it with its Gold Medal as The Best Picture of the Month for the whole family.

LIBERTY picks it as Top Honor Candidate "with all the charm of 'Going My Way'."

WOMAN'S DAY selects it as The Picture of the Month and says "Bing's better than in 'Going My Way'."

NATIONAL CATHOLIC MAGAZINE calls it "superior to 'Going My Way' in every department."

MODERN SCREEN says it "repeats all the heartwarming sentiment and humor of 'Going My Way'."

MOVIES says it's "the answer to all who have been asking for another Going My Way'."

MOVIELAND says "Bing and Barry were never more lovable even in 'Going My Way'."

SCREENLAND honors it as The Movie of the Month.

REDBOOK recommends it as "the parallel of 'Going My Way'."



BING AND BARRY ARE BACK AGAIN

In Paramount's

"Welcome Stranger"

starring

BING CROSBY · JOAN CAULFIELD · BARRY FITZGERALD

with Wanda Hendrix · Frank Faylen · Elizabeth Patterson
Robert Shayne · Larry Young · Percy Kilbride

Directed by ELLIOTT NUGENT

Screen Play by Arthur Sheekman • Adaptation by Arthur Sheekman and N. Richard Nash • Story by Frank Butler • Produced by Sol C. Siegel • Lyrics by Johnny Burke • Music by James Van Heusen

O'Brien Intervenes In ACT-Fox Dispute

LONDON, June 25. — Tom O'Brien, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes and member of Parliament, today sought to settle the dispute between 20th Century-Fox and the Association of Cinema Technicians. The ACT has refused to permit its members to work in production for 20th Century-Fox here until a preliminary overall agreement on the employment of Americans in England is reached with the Motion Picture Association.

It is believed that with today's scheduled application by 20th Century-Fox for labor permits from the Labor Ministry, the necessary manpower will be found, despite ACT opposition.

Meanwhile, Richard F. Walsh, international president of IATSE, said he hoped to find some basis of mutual understanding with ACT at another meeting with George Elvin, ACT secretary. Walsh conferred with Elvin yesterday.

After a trade union luncheon honoring Walsh today, he and O'Brien will fly to Brussels to attend the film festival there. Walsh will return here on Friday, when he will resume his conversations with Elvin and other ACT executives.

Fayette Allport, MPA representative in England, has already written to the ACT, emphasizing that he can speak only for MPA members, but guaranteeing in their behalf personnel ceiling figures in the requirements of American production in Britain for the forthcoming year.

Urges 17-Year Video Licensing Period

WASHINGTON, June 25.—Richard W. Hubbell, New York television, radio and film consultant, today urged Congress to extend television licensing to a 17-year period in order to encourage the capital investment needed for the development of television.

Hubbell told a Senate commerce sub-committee, holding hearings on the White bill to reorganize the Federal Communications Act, that the short three-year license is a serious deterrent to investment.

Television development, he said, now depends on the construction and operation of television transmitters and the formation of television networks, and the crux of the entire situation is "the investment of dollars." As long as any Government agency has the power to refuse to renew a license, Hubbell said, there is an implicit hazard to long-range investment.

The sub-committee hopes to finish its hearings on Friday. It is generally conceded that the bill will not be reported out of committee at this session of Congress.

U.S. Charges $650,000 Circuit Tax Evasion

Washington, June 25.—A theatre circuit in the South has evaded $650,000 of Federal taxes, the Treasury Department charged today. The name of the circuit was not revealed.

The Department reported that all profits from the ice cream, pop corn and other concessions in the theatre had been omitted from tax returns.

Enterprise Charts New 'Ad' Policy

HOLLYWOOD, June 25.—A new type of national advertising policy which would campaign each picture over a three-month period instead of concentrating on the week or month of general release, and other phases of the company's promotional activities, occupied Enterprise executives today on the third day of their annual planning meetings at the studio.

The company's decision on the distribution channel to be used for "Arch of Triumph" will be made by the weekend, George Schaefer, distribution chief of Enterprise, disclosed.

Services for Wilding Today in Chicago

CHICAGO, June 25.—Funeral services will be held at the Lain Chapel, here, tomorrow for Norman E. Wilding, 55, president of Wilding Picture Productions, who died here last night following a three-month illness. Wilding, connected with the industry since 1917, founded Wilding Pictures in 1927 in Grand Rapids. The business was later moved to Detroit and finally to Chicago, in 1941.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Carrie Wilding and the widow, Mrs. Jessica Wilding.

Services Held Here For Harry G. Black

Services for Harry G. Black, 47, general manager of Fabian Theatres on Staten Island, were held here yesterday at Riverside Memorial Chapel. Burial was in Ferncliff Cemetery, Westchester.

Black, who died in Miami Monday, was associated with the industry for many years. He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Bebe Klein Black.

Variety Club Hospital

MEMPHIS, June 25.—Variety Club of Memphis will establish a mobile hospital unit with surgical supplies, operating rooms and blood plasma. This moving hospital would go to scenes of disaster, such as storms and floods in the Mid-South, on mercy missions.

Spain Dubbing Curb Hits U.S. Companies

WASHINGTON, June 25.—Spain's recently-imposed restrictions on dubbing of foreign films into Spanish would appear "to eliminate branches of U. S. firms which do not produce films in Spain from obtaining dubbing permits except by purchase from a Spanish producer," according to an analysis released here by the Commerce Department.

The department says the main provision in the new regulations states that permission for the dubbing of foreign films into Spanish will be granted exclusively to persons or organizations which produce Spanish films and which merit the approval of the Superior Council. The analyses also points out that censorship functions of the Council are "objectionable from the point of view of foreign producers, who feel that, in general, the distribution of foreign films in Spain is being made more difficult."

However, the report adds, it appears that no action has been taken yet.

Mexican Studios Resume Filming

By LUIS BECERRA CELIS

MEXICO CITY, June 25.—Peace has been restored to Mexican studios with the start of four features, after 25 days of work stoppage due to salary disputes.

The Producers' Association, in announcing jointly with the Picture Production Workers Union the end of the stoppage, said a new pact represents a 30 per cent saving for production. Both the producers and the union declare that the pact was signed "amid an atmosphere of cordiality." The producers pledged to make at least 60 pictures a year.

During the first five months of 1947, a record number of 147 features was shown in Mexico.

Lawrence, Korda

(*Continued from page* 1)

course of the trial here, Korda had charged that Lawrence had violated the agreement by engaging in various enterprises other than London Films, and for that reason dismissed Lawrence as his distribution representative.

A contributing factor to the settlement, which both sides agreed was an "amicable" one, was said to have been Lawrence's recently announced association with David O. Selznick which diminished the amount of salary liability.

Louis Frohlich of Schwartz and Frohlich represented Korda and Isidor J. Kresel was Lawrence's counsel in the case.

Legion of Decency Rates 13 Films

Eight of 13 features reviewed b the National Legion of Decency hav been classified A-I, including: "Th Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer, RKO Radio; "Bob, Son of Battle, 20th Century-Fox; "Law Comes t Gunsight," "Sarge Goes to College and "Trailing Danger," all Mono gram; "North of the Border," Scree Guild; "Swing the Western Way,' Columbia; "Web of Danger," Repub lic. Rated A-II were: Universal-In ternational's "Ivy" and "A Lady S renders."

Placed in Class B were: "Fun o Weekend," United Artists; "Keepe of the Bees," Columbia; "The Un faithful," Warners.

World Film Festivals

(*Continued from page* 1)

some might say it is easy for the U. S. to advocate such a role because the American film industry is the biggest in the world, "we have no guarantee that our predominance will last forever."

"Hollywood has no immunity from competition," Johnston said, "and should have none. We want the channels kept open for the best pictures of the world no matter where they are made."

The MPA president said that the Brussels festival "is proof that the motion picture is steadily gaining in artistry, popularity, and importance with people everywhere." He praised the role of films in building "a united freedom front around the world."

"I want to see the screen used for psychological welfare," he stated, "and never for psychological warfare."

Johnston assailed "misconceptions about the United States" given by Henry A. Wallace during his recent tour of Europe.

Many Killed in Brussels Film Fire; 41 Injured

Dispatches to New York newspapers yesterday from Brussels reported that up to 17 persons were killed and 41 injured, many seriously, in a fire in the film department of the building housing the Ministry of Education. Sources in the film industry here which ordinarily would be apprised of such matters had no details when checked yesterday.

Export Drop

(*Continued from page* 1)

and perhaps in the third but from that point on the Department said exports are likely to decrease until productive facilities abroad are restored.

If world prices in terms of gold or dollars do not decline substantially, the Department report continued, the need of foreign countries for monetary gold or dollar reserves can be reduced by any of three methods: Lowering or abolishing legal requirements for reserves against domestic money, credit relying more on exchange controls or barter, restricting imports and domestic business activity.

"VARIETY GIRL IS BIG AS THE

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Ivy," opposed by only one newcomer to the first-run field, ran up impressive totals in its first five days at five theatres. "Miracle on 34th Street" showed a strong second week. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 25:

CALCUTTA (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,955) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week Gross: $25,500. (Average: $26,600)

CALCUTTA (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $16,100)

CHEYENNE (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd weke. Gross: $9,600. (Average: $18,200)

CHEYENNE (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $15,500)

CHEYENNE (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,900. (Average: $14,900)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,500)

HONEYMOON (RKO Radio) and DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA (RKO Radio)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $19,800)

HONEYMOON (RKO Radio) and DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $20,800)

IVY (U-I) and PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE (PRC)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $5,900)

IVY (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $7,200)

IVY (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $9,600)

IVY (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,100)

IVY (U-I) and PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE (PRC)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $15,800)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $18,100)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,300)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500 (Average: $22,600)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,200)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox) and HER SISTER'S SECRET (PRC)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $28,600)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,500)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,200)

NEW ORLEANS (UA-Levey)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,700)

NEW ORLEANS (UA-Levey)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $14,200)

NEW ORLEANS (UA-Levey)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,400)

NEW ORLEANS (UA-Levey)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,700)

INDIANAPOLIS

Business was generally slow. Good weather drew crowds outdoors. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 25:

BLAZE OF NOON (Para.) and DANGER STREET (Para.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)

COPACABANA (UA) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $13,800)

FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and ABIE'S IRISH ROSE (UA)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,700)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and SPOILERS OF THE NORTH (Rep.)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,200)

TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) and WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c). On a moveover from the Indiana. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,500)

SAN FRANCISCO

Top business in town went to "Perils of Pauline," which did an impressive $25,000 at the Paramount. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 27:

CHEYENNE (WB) and I COVER BIG TOWN (Para.)—STATE (2,135) (60c-85c). On a moveover. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000)

COPACABANA (UA) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $15,000)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—ST. FRANCIS (1,450) (60c-85c) 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $18,000)

DESPERATE (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00). With vaudeville. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $23,000)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.-Allied Artists) and FALL GUY (Mono.)—UNITED NATIONS (1,129) (55c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,000)

MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox) and VIOLENCE (Mono.)—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,500)

NEW ORLEANS (UA) and THE DEVIL ON WHEELS (PRC)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 3rd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $9,000)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c). Gross: $25,500. (Average: $20,000)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox) and AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE (Rep.)—FOX (4,651) (65c-85c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $23,000)

BOSTON

Excellent weather plus baseball dealt hard blows at box-offices of all first-run houses. Estimated grosses for the week ended June 25:

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—ESQUIRE (850) ($1.00-$1.40). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $16,000)

CHEYENNE (WB) and I COVER BIG TOWN (Para.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $26,000)

DISCOVERY (Discovery Films) and VACATION DAYS (Mono.)—CENTER (1,388) (40c-74c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,500)

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox) and CHILD OF DIVORCE (RKO Radio) — MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $27,200)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I) and DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA (RKO Radio)—BOSTON (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $27,200)

THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.) and LITTLE MISS BROADWAY (Col.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,500)

THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.) and LITTLE MISS BROADWAY (Col.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $20,000)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)

CHICAGO

Good weather pulled many away from Loop theatres this week. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 23-24:

BLAZE OF NOON (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c) On stage: Desi Arnez and orchestra. Gross: $60,000. (Average: $59,000)

CHEYENNE (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,000)

COPACABANA (UA)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c) On stage: Jayne Walton. 2nd week. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $40,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $16,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 26th week. (Final.) Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $25,500)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $17,500)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $11,500)

POSSESSED (WB)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (95c). Gross: $38,000. (Average: $30,000)

THE VIGILANTES RETURN (U-I) and TIME OUT OF MIND (U-I)—PALACE (2,500) (95c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $26,000)

PHILADELPHIA

"Odd Man Out," at the Aldine; "Blaze of Noon," at the Stanton; Louis Jordan in person, at the Earle; "The Yearling," at the Karlton, and "The Best Years of Our Lives," at the Arcadia, are keeping those theatres out of the summer doldrums. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 24-26:

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ARCADIA (900) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 12th week. Gross: $8,300. (Average at regular prices of 50c-94c: $6,600)

BLAZE OF NOON (Para.)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,700)

CALCUTTA (Para.)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,200)

CHEYENNE (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $29,500)

COPACABANA (UA)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $27,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—FOX (3,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 4th week. Gross: $19,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-94c: $25,000)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,700. (Average: $21,000)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—GOLDMAN (1,460) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $24,000)

HIT PARADE OF 1947 (Rep.)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days. On stage: Louis Jordan. Gross: $30,000. **ODD MAN OUT (U-I)** 1 day. Gross: $2,800. (Average: $31,700)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $15,500. (Average: $13,800)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 5th week. ross: $13,000. (Average: $9,500)

DENVER

Grosses continued uneven. Weekend rain diverted many outdoor fans to the theatres. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 26:

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $11,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—PARAMOUNT (35c-74c) 4th week, day and date with the Paramount. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—ESQUIRE (742) (2,200) (35c-74c) 4th week, day and date with the Esquire. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,000)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox) and LITTLE MISS BROADWAY (Col.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) day and date with the Webber. Gross. $16,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox) and LITTLE MISS BROADWAY (Col.)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c). Day and date with the Denver. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,000)

LITTLE MISTER JIM (M-G-M) and BOOM TOWN (M-G-M)—BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c) 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,000)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M) and DESPERATE (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,500)

QUEEN OF THE AMAZONS (Screen Guild) and DON'T GAMBLE WITH STRANGERS (Mono.)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,000)

SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI (Mono.)—TABOR (1,967) (35c-74c). With stage show. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) and BACKLASH (20th-Fox)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c). After a week at the Denver and Webber. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $4,000)

BUFFALO

Weather here has been hot, and vacationists are leaving the city in droves. Theatre business, as a result, has been held to a moderate level. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 28:

BORN TO KILL (RKO Radio) and A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $16,000)

CHEYENNE (WB)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Moveover. Gross: $4,300. (Average: $6,000)

DISHONORED LADY (UA) and FUN ON A WEEKEND (UA)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $17,700. (Average: $19,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $28,000. (Average at regular prices of 40c-50c-60c-70c: $10,000)

MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY (Col.) and KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $13,200. (Average: $15,000)

THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.) and SEVEN WERE SAVED (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000)

HEART OF SHOW BUSINESS...

Northwest Exhibitors See Much Prosperity

Seattle, June 25.—Theatres in the "Inland Empire," of which Spokane is the heart, are preparing for an exceptionally heavy fall business. With the wealth of the golden grain on one side and rich mines to the North, theatres will be taxed to capacity, according to Jimmy O'Connell, general manager of Evergreen Theatres; Oscar Nyberg of Fox Theatres, Nick Pierong of the State, and Frank Harris of the Garland.

Floods in Nebraska

(*Continued from page* 1)

much of the corn crop, taking a toll in drownings, and denting all business generally.

Hardest hit were the Medicine Creek and Republican Valley areas. Film exchanges here received a number of wires from the area, ordering film delivery stopped. In other sectors, high water snarled rail and truck transportation.

Among the casualties at Cambridge, which was submerged in a flash flood, were Mrs. George Baughman, Jr. and her child. She was the daughter-in-law of the owner of the Ritz Theatre.

Film Deliveries Continue Despite Floods in Missouri

KANSAS CITY, June 25.—Further rains in the Midwest, adding to floods, have created danger from high water in many sections. Film deliveries are being made, although numerous exhibitors have had to motor to railroads and truck services for prints.

Bob Spencer, manager of the Strand and Uptown theatres, Commonwealth houses at Creston, Iowa, for one, continues to motor to Kansas City twice a week for prints, because of express embargoes.

Unger Sets Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

Fred M. Jack, Southern; Rud Lohrenz, Midwestern; Moe Dudelson, Central; C. W. Allen, Prairie; W. E. Calloway, Western, and Charles S. Chaplin, Canadian general manager. Home office executives attending will include H. D. Buckley, head of domestic operations; Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., advertising-publicity director; Paul M. Lazarus, Sr., contract manager, and Abe Dickstein, Robert Goldfarb and Jack Wrege, all of the home office sales staff.

ONLY
$4.50
A Week
For Complete Service
Save With Filmack's
PREVUE TRAILER SERVICE
Filmack 1327 S. WABASH AVE. CHICAGO 5

ATA, MPTOA

(*Continued from page* 1)

since the Washington hearing, was made this week.

The tax brief, as previously reported, will recommend elimination of all taxation on children's tickets and only a 10 per cent levy on adult admissions, or, as an alternative, a straight 10 per cent tax on all tickets. The present war-time excise levy is 20 per cent.

The Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, said to be substantially in agreement with the basic plan, has yet to decide whether it will join the ATA and MPTOA or file a separate brief.

Coyne said "exhibits" which will accompany the tax reduction plan also will include breakdowns on income groups attending theatres and estimates on the number of theatres in different admission-price categories. The latter is particularly aimed at dispelling any notion that the Broadway first-run area is typical of the country, but rather charges prices considerably above the average scale.

Coyne said he has been assured assistance in compiling the figures by circuits, the Motion Picture Association and Audience Research Institute. MPA is now collating findings from its recently concluded nationwide survey of theatre operations.

As reported last week, adoption of the proposed program would mean the Government would forego only 35 per cent of present tax revenue derived from theatres, which amounts to about $400,000,000 annually.

Warner Wage Rise

(*Continued from page* 1)

Office Employes Local No. H-63, IATSE.

Increases range from $4 to $7 weekly on a graduated basis. Employes earning up to $29 weekly will receive $4 increases; those earning $29 to $39, a $5 increase; $40 to $59, a $6 increase, and those earning $60 and over, a $7 increase.

Negotiations began on May 1 under a wage-reopening clause of a two-year contract, which expires May 31, 1948. The increases are retroactive to June 1, and will be applied to the minimum scales.

The WB subsidiaries include Ace Film Laboratory and the Harms, Remick and Witmark music publishing firms.

Republic District Meet

KANSAS CITY, June 25.—Nat Sternberg, Prairie district manager of Republic Pictures, held a meeting here this week of branch managers, including Robert F. Eithers, Kansas City; Dave Nelson, Des Moines; Harry Lerholtz, Omaha; and J. J. Houlihan, St. Louis.

Academy Adds Members

HOLLYWOOD, June 25. — The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has added 56 members, bringing total membership to 1,756.

REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
1600 BROADWAY, N. Y. 19 Circle 6-6686
Complete Film and Disc Recording Facilities

Independents Eschew "Jr. Prices": Berger

ATLANTIC CITY, June 25.—Minneapolis and St. Paul independent theatres are marking time on junior admissions and will allow circuit operations there to "carry the ball" for the present, according to Benny Berger, president of North Central Allied.

Berger said independents are cool toward junior admissions because they fail to regard the plan as mechanically logical or feasible. A contributing factor, he said, is the federal tax situation which until clarified or amended provides that a tax must be paid on full admission regardless of what the exhibitor collects. Berger favors a stepping-up of childrens' prices to 15 or 20 cents, including tax, and rolling back the age limit to about 15 years.

20th-Fox Policy

(*Continued from page* 1)

centage, Smith said, he expects preferred playing time "if they merit it."

This announcement was the highlight of yesterday's session of the New Jersey Allied meeting here.

"We recognize," Smith stated, "the problem of the small exhibitor operating a sub-subsequent run in a large city or operating in a small town with low grossing possibilities. We believe that small exhibitors need help and we will give it to them," he declared.

To Aid 'Problem' Theatres

"Also," he continued, "there are in every territory a small number of theatres which are problem theatres. They operate at high expense and have low grossing possibilities. We believe these theatres need help and we will give it to them regardless of who owns them."

In further explanation, 20th-Fox's general sales manager reported that the company's six territorial salesmen, including Canada, will have full authorization to execute contracts and to grant any credit adjustments. These six salesmen, plus William C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager, and Smith will place the valuation "only after the picture has by performance demonstrated its true value," Smith said.

Each sales manager, he added, will exercise the right to change designations in his area if a change proves warranted.

When deals rise to 40 per cent the exhibitor and 20th-Fox are to split dollar for dollar alike over the 40 per cent break figure, Smith continued.

A part of the deal is the requirement of a statement of theatre expenses certified by an accredited accountant.

15% is 'Break-Even' Point

"At 15 per cent our scale deal will be based on a break-even point," he said. "The scale will go up in steps of two and a half per cent with a profit equal to the percentage paid. For instance: 17½ per cent of our film rental is at 17½ per cent of the gross, and so on, up to 35 per cent, at which point the theatre is to have 50 per cent of our film rental as profit, and so on, up to the 40 per cent figure."

This, he said, would mean 50 per cent profit for the theatre at the 35 per cent level, 50 per cent at the 37½ per cent level, and 50 per cent at the 40 per cent level.

NCA to Demand

(*Continued from page* 1)

conduct a Congressional probe of the entire film industry.

He added that the decision by the North Central board had been reached reluctantly, after all other devices failed.

Jack Kirsch, National Allied president, urged Berger to reconsider and offered his service as part of any committee to meet with distributor representatives to adjust complaints of Northwest exhibitors. These complaints, according to Berger, revolve around exhibitor insistence on advanced prices and 70-30 per cent deals, with fire being directed chiefly at "The Best Years of Our Lives" and, secondarily, at "Duel in the Sun."

Public Demand for 'Best Years'

Considerable pressure on the part of the public demanding the Samuel Goldwyn film was being felt by exhibitor members of North Central, Berger said, but they regard it as foolhardy to abandon regular scales for advanced admissions.

Harry Brandt, New York circuit operator, another speaker who futilely urged Berger to abandon the open letter on the ground that Government intervention in industry affairs should be reduced rather than increased, cited the Consent Decree under which block booking was eliminated and, thereby, placed independent exhibitors at the mercy of the distributor. He added that this paved the way for advanced price attractions because the exhibitor no longer had a backlog of pictures.

It would be more constructive, Brandt continued, if Berger's group would spend money in trade paper advertising urging the independents to form one tightly-knit organization.

Irving Dollinger and Kirsch served as moderators at this afternoon's open forum at which the Berger tirade was unleashed.

In an attack on Hollywood product, Hollywood's overhead and salaries, Brandt declared he intended to ask some pointed questions about the "mediocrity" of product. He expressed "delight" over the caliber of many British imports as a counterbalance.

Myers Urges 'Self-Criticism

The time for self-examination of all exhibitor associations is at hand, Abram F. Myers, National Allied general counsel, stated in a message to the convention.

He declared that every exhibitor group, "and certainly every Allied regional unit, should be given a good going-over by its members, not in a carping, fault-finding way, but merely to insure that they are getting adequate return for their dues and for the time and effort expended in attending meetings and participating in organization affairs."

Acknowledging that National Allied "is somewhat aloof from rank-and-file exhibitors since it has few direct contacts with them," Myers added that more and more direct effort is being made to help solve problems intimately affecting exhibitors.

Another Re-release from Franchise Holders of
FAVORITE FILMS CORP.
630 9th Ave., New York 19, N. Y.
Ida Lupino Nino Martini Leo Carillo
DARING DESPERADOS

DO NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 125 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 1947 TEN CENTS

ATA-MPTOA To Meet Here On Affiliation

Groups' Executives To Confer in Two Weeks

Executives and board members of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and the American Theatres Association will meet here on July 11 and 12 to discuss a proposed merger of the two exhibitor organizations.

Disclosure of the meeting was made in a joint statement by Fred Wehrenberg and Lewen Pizor, president and chairman of the board, respectively, of MPTOA, and Si Fabian and Ted Gamble, president and board chairman, respectively, of ATA. Details for plans of the conference will be announced early next week, it was added.

ATA and MPTOA have already decided to get together in charting a proposed Federal admissions tax plan for submission to the House Ways and Means Committee in Washington.

'IA' Officials Begin Talks on Taft Law

Discussion of the effect of the Taft-Hartley law on IATSE contracts, with the view of adjusting union policy to meet new conditions, began here yesterday among 'IA' officials.

Participating in the conference

(*Continued on page* 10)

Commons To Get UK Tax Bid Next Week

London, June 26.—A resolution supporting the proposal that the British government assume "enabling powers" to authorize it to increase customs to any extent on exposed motion picture imports, will come before the House of Commons next mid-week.

Purpose of the tax would be to adjust film imports against British exports to "a reasonable level." The enabling powers, however, will not be put into operation in the event a satisfactory return in terms of British screenings in America is forthcoming.

Some Situations May Get Only One Percentage Film Under 20th Plan

Atlantic City, June 26.—Twentieth Century-Fox may not insist on from two to five percentage films under its newly-proposed sales plan to aid small town, sub-subsequent run and problem theatres, but only one on percentage in given situations.

The plan, as explained at the New Jersey Allied convention here on Wednesday by Andrew W. Smith, Jr., the company's general sales manager, was described as providing that exhibitors in the categories defined are to play not less than two and not more than five features on percentage, while the rest of the company's program will be available on flat rental.

However, it is understood that if the number of percentage films should go to the maximum of five, it would mean a cut of from six to seven pictures presently sold to the types of theatres falling within the boundaries of the company's contemplated sales policy.

Emphasized application of the plan, if finally made national, will be highly flexible and adaptable as circumstances indicate. The distributor declares its willingness to accept certified statements covering house expenses as submitted by exhibitors, but but will reserve the right to insist upon its own audit, if a submitted figure appears out of line. Smith estimates about 6,000 theatres will be eligible.

Allied Production Plans May Dissolve

ATLANTIC CITY, June 26.—While Allied States continues to entertain the possibility of participating in production through guarantees of playing time, no concrete progress has been made and it is not remote for the entire project to slide into complete discard.

Allied leaders probably will deny this, but nevertheless difficulty revolves around the inability to corral enough contracts to give interested producing groups assurance dates

(*Continued on page* 10)

N. J. Allied Closes Meet

ATLANTIC CITY, June 26.—Twentieth-Fox's new sales policy met support and rebuff at the New Jersey Allied's closing session today. Supporters, including Jack Kirsch, National Allied president, and Harry Brandt, New York Independent Theatre Owners Association president, got behind a move for a resolution recommending A. W. Smith, Jr., 20th-Fox general sales manager, who introduced the new

(*Continued on page* 10)

"The Hucksters"

[*M-G-M*]

CLARK GABLE'S first since his misadventure in "Adventure" drips dollars.

Other attractions have taken their toll of the peculiarities in radio, but none in such wholesale sidesweep or so well as "The Hucksters."

A huckster is a pedler and that is what Gable is this time. He is a radio producer back from the war and ready to pitch into the world of sponsors and advertising agencies.

That world is strange, too, as told here. There is Adolphe Menjou, head of the agency conspiring with the sponsors to inflict that whole array of ethered banalities on a suffering public. There is Sydney Greenstreet, eccentric tycoon in soap who has the world in which he rules completely subjugated to his outlandish tyrannies. Into this circle and its satellites, Gable projects himself, prepared to play the game according to the rules set forth by Frederic Wakeman in his best-selling novel from which this film is drawn.

The attraction concerns Gable's adventures, including his romance

(*Continued on page* 8)

Kirsch Offers 'A System' On Complaints

Says Allied Should Act On Contract Grievances

By RED KANN

ATLANTIC CITY, June 26.—Jack Kirsch, president of Allied States Association, tonight urged the adoption by that national organization of a system for settling individual exhibitor grievances as they arise against distributors.



Jack Kirsch

Speaking before several hundred at the testimonial dinner given in his honor by Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, Kirsch called for adjustment of member's complaints by regional Allied executives dealing first-hand with company

(*Continued on page* 10)

Berger To Abandon Plea for U.S. Probe

ATLANTIC CITY, June 26.—Benny Berger, president of North Central Allied, at a late hour tonight decided to hold off publication of his request for a Congressional investigation of the film industry "for a few weeks," but it is understood that he has abandoned the plan. Ever since his announcement last night of NCA's plan to run an "open letter" advertisement addressed to President Truman and Congress in Monday's *Washington Post*, Berger has been the object of considerable private pressure.

Milwaukee to Be Site Of Nov. Allied Meet

Atlantic City, June 26. — Jack Kirsch, president of National Allied, disclosed tonight that the next convention of the association will be held in Milwaukee November 10-12.

Personal Mention

ED MOREY, vice-president and assistant to STEVE BROIDY, Allied Artists-Monogram president who arrived in Hollywood yesterday for sales policy discussions, will leave tomorrow.

•

MAURICE GOLDSTEIN, general sales manager of Allied Artists and Monogram, has been hospitalized in New Haven for the past week with an eye infection. He expects to return to his desk here in a week.

•

HAROLD FRIEDMAN, manager of Warners' Vogue Theatre, Cleveland, is in a hospital at Savannah, following an illness which developed en route home from his honeymoon in Florida.

•

ARTHUR I. WEINBERG, son of LOUIS WEINBERG, Columbia circuit sales executive, and EILEEN KAPLAN of Newton Center, Mass., have announced their engagement.

•

JIM WATSON, assistant to JACK HARRIS of Walter Reade Theatres, and MRS. WATSON, are parents of a daughter, their third child.

•

W. LEE WILDER, Republic producer-director, is in town from the Coast for talks with HERBERT J. YATES, SR., Republic president.

•

AL SCHUMAN, Hartford Theatres Circuit, Hartford, and MRS. SCHUMAN have returned there from a vacation in Hollywood.

•

BOB SCHWARTZ, advertising-publicity manager of Eagle-Lion, and BARBARA KAHN, artist, will be married on Sunday.

•

EDWARD S. FARROW, Eastman Kodak vice-president, is due here Monday from Sweden on the *Gripsholm.*

•

ANN MARTIN, Warner Club secretary, has announced her engagement to WILLIAM V. HAZEL, ex-Marine.

•

JAMES E. THOMPSON, manager of the Bryn-Mawr Theatre, Bryn-Mawr, Pa., was a Louisville visitor.

•

LOUIS ASTOR, Columbia circuit sales executive, is on a business trip to Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

•

MILTON SCHOSBERG, manager of Fabian's Grand Theatre, Albany, N. Y., is vacationing in Canada.

•

ALBERT A. SENFT, president of the Sterling Sign Co., is author of a book on advertising technique.

•

FRANCES RAFFERTY, actress, and BOB STANTON, radio singer, have announced their engagement.

•

A. E. SCHILLER, Republic branch operations manager, is visiting the Charlotte, N. C., branch.

•

GINNY SIMMS has arrived in New York from Beverly Hills.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Atlantic City, June 26

ANY time a distributor tells an exhibitor group the boys will be able to buy film cheaper, he's got a smash attraction. Andy Smith did this and stole the show at New Jersey Allied's convention.

Twentieth Century-Fox's contemplated national policy switch produced baffling reactions at first; it was difficult to determine whether it was a case of astonishment, bewilderment, disbelief or plain lethargy on a hot afternoon. There was no violent outburst of enthusiasm and only a handful of desultory questions when Smith confidentially laid himself open to queries from the floor. The probability is Smith stunned his audience into immobility.

■

It took the rest of Wednesday for the significance of his statement to penetrate. Preponderance of comment, volunteered this observer, or sought by him, was favorable, which, incidentally, should occasion no surprise. However, there were some who were dubious and began looking around for gimmicks without much success. This was typical of the wary exhibitor who found it incredible that 20th Century-Fox, or any other distributor, would offer to reduce rentals by voluntary action.

There were others—and more of these—who accepted what they heard. Typical was one important buyer, who remarked: "I don't have to study any plan which tells me film will cost me 15 per cent. That's enough for me." He had a lot of company.

■

However, there was doubt as the convention closed tonight over the distributors' insistence that, as a condition of the policy proposed, theatre operating expenses must clear through accredited accountants. Some theatremen, pessimists or not, foresaw continuing difficulty in reaching mutuality on this and pointed to their past troubles with distributors in deciding what items of expense were allowable in setting up percentage deals.

It must be borne in mind, also, that this plan is experimental, with the New Haven territory as proving ground. Experience there will determine application elsewhere, but, regardless of what may develop thereafter it is wholly factual to report 20th Century-Fox made a decidedly favorable impression here and immediately led exhibitors to hope other distributors will follow suit.

■ ■ ■

The balance of newsreel power heads for its most significant shift in years in November when the Warner Newsreel is slated to make its bow. The Warner theatre circuit now uses the established five reels, but won't when its own is ready. The intention, never a secret, is to keep in the corporate family the rentals now being paid to outside companies. It's a large sum of money every year.

This is a fortunate and comfortable way to launch a new project, this ability to establish immediate and substantial revenue without need to wander from the fireside. But it represents only a fraction—important, of course—of the whole newsreel market.

Six brands will be in the ring this winter scrambling, and perhaps scratching, for dates. Four of the old-line five, Paramount, Fox, News of the Day and Pathe News, will find comfort in the theatre power of their parent companies, Universal, having no such cushion, must try for its comfort elsewhere. If there is an elsewhere.

■ ■

Coincidence of upbeat trade paper reviews of "The Perils of Pauline" and "The Web" only a few days apart points up the fact that Bertram Millhauser, script writer on the latter, used to dream up Pauline's perils week after week when Pearl White was star and George Seitz producer. They have passed on to their celluloid heaven, but the fact is those, like Millhauser who was reared in the suspense school of serials, still know how to weave absorbing stories. "The Web" tends to prove this. A tight and taut melodrama, well acted and produced, it was brought in for about $800,000.

Now there's a cost for you.

■ ■

Dore Schary, RKO Radio production head, turns actor for one scene in "The Bachelor and the Bobby Soxer." His explanation: "Not only did I go through my scene without a blowup, but I want you to know that it was a one-take job. Central Casting was advised and, after looking at me, they couldn't have done better in casting the chauffeur's bit."

No comment from Alfred Hitchcock.

RKO Group Due Monda

Phil Reisman, RKO Radio vice president in charge of foreign operations will arrive here Monday aboar the *S.S. Queen Elizabeth,* after a extensive visit abroad. He will be a companied by player John Mills ar the latter's wife, and George Dawso secretary and director of RKO Unite Kingdom, and David Jones, RK publicity director in the United King dom.

To Film Cantor Story

HOLLYWOOD, June 26. — ts of J Warner, executive producer of War ner Brothers, has concluded arrang ments for the filming of "The Stor of Eddie Cantor."

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
GENE TIERNEY . REX HARRISON . GEORGE SANDERS
'THE GHOST & Mrs. MUIR'
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST
JOAN BENNETT
ROBERT RYAN • CHARLES BICKFORD
in 'THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH'
RKO RADIO PICTURE

LOEW'S STATE B'way at 45
ON SCREEN Alan LADD GAIL RUSSELL 'CALCUTTA'
IN PERSON CROSS & DUNN EXTRA! Fred & Elaine BARRY OTHERS

WILLIAM HOLDEN • JOAN CAULFIELD in "Dear Ruth"
with BILLY DE WOLFE • EDWARD ARNOLD MONA FREEMAN
A Paramount Picture.
IN PERSON PERRY COMO LLOYD SHAFFER and his ORCHESTRA HELEN CARROLL and the SATISFIERS LARRY STORCH THE FOUR EVANS
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE MOST HONORED FILM OF OUR TIME!
32ND WEEK!
COOL ASTOR B'WAY & 45th ST.

Maureen O'Hara, John Payne, Edmond Gwenn
"Miracle on 34th Street"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Plus on Stage—JERRY LESTER - ART LUND
Extra! JAN AUGUST
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

THE BIGGEST FIGURE IN THE INDUSTRY IS

20th CENTURY-FOX

THE BIGGEST ROMANTIC TRIUMPH IS.....



THE BIGGEST COMEDY SMASH IS.....



THE BIGGEST SUSPENSE HIT IS.....



THE BIGGEST OUTDOOR ADVENTURE IS....



THE BIGGEST MUSICAL SENSATION IS..



CORNEL WILDE • MAUREEN O'HARA in "THE HOMESTRETCH" in TECHNICOLOR with GLENN LANGAN • HELEN WALKER • James Gleason • Henry Stephenson Margaret Bannerman • Ethel Griffies • Tommy Cook • Directed by BRUCE HUMBERSTONE • Produced by ROBERT BASSLER • Original Screen Play by Wanda Tuchock

MAUREEN O'HARA • JOHN PAYNE in "MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET" with EDMUND GWENN • Gene Lockhart • Natalie Wood • Porter Hall • William Frawley • Jerome Cowan • Philip Tonge • Written for the Screen and Directed by GEORGE SEATON Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG • Story by Valentine Davies

PEGGY CUMMINS • VICTOR MATURE • ETHEL BARRYMORE in "MOSS ROSE" with VINCENT PRICE • Margo Woode • George Zucco • Patricia Medina • Rhys Williams Directed by GREGORY RATOFF • Produced by GENE MARKEY • Screen Play by Jules Furthman and Tom Reed • Adaptation by Niven Busch • From the Novel by Joseph Shearing

"BOB, SON OF BATTLE" in TECHNICOLOR • Starring LON McCALLISTER with Peggy Ann Garner • Edmund Gwenn • Reginald Owen • Charles Irwin • Directed by LOUIS KING • Produced by ROBERT BASSLER • Screen Play by Jerome Cady Based on the Novel by Alfred Ollivant

"I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW" in TECHNICOLOR• Starring JUNE HAVER MARK STEVENS with MARTHA STEWART • REGINALD GARDINER • Lenore Aubert William Frawley • Gene Nelson • Truman Bradley • George Cleveland • Directed by LLOYD BACON • Produced by GEORGE JESSEL • Original Screen Play by Lewis R. Foster • Additional Dialogue by Marion Turk • Dances Staged by Hermes Pan

THE HOMESTRETCH IN TECHNICOLOR



Miracle on 34TH Street

BROADWAY



Moss Rose



Bob, Son of Battle

in TECHNICOLOR!



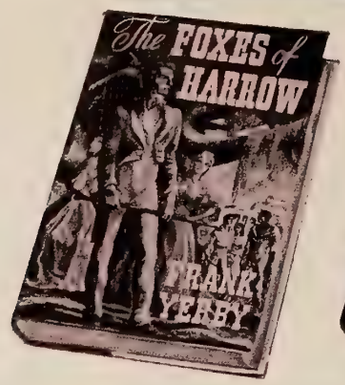
I wonder who's kissing her now

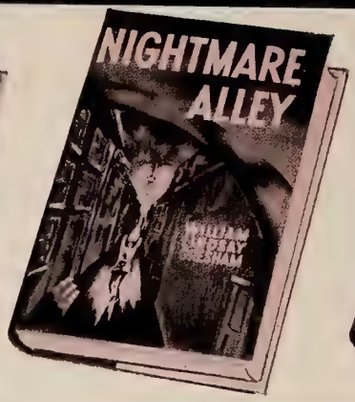
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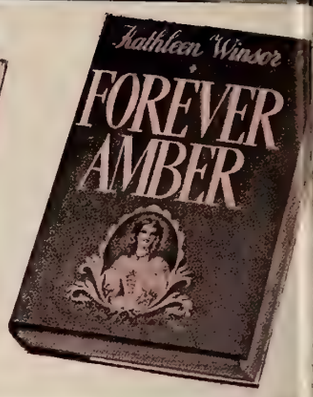


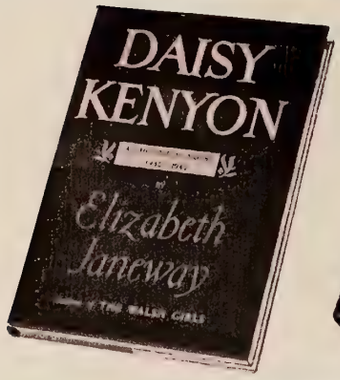
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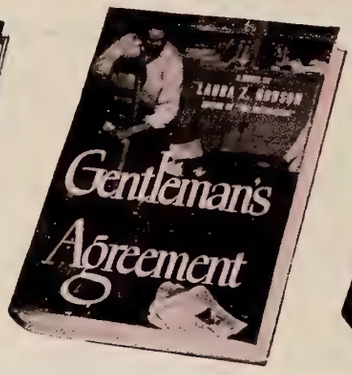
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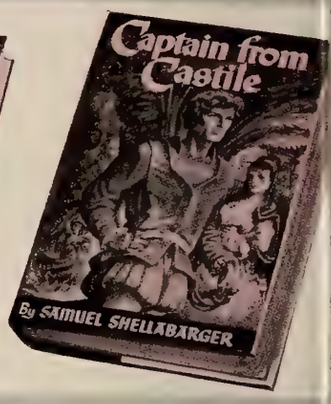


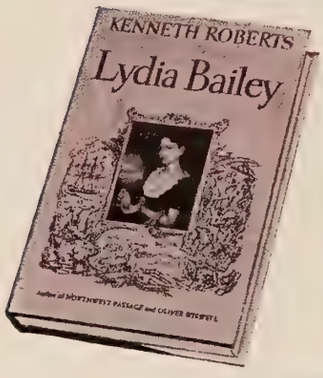


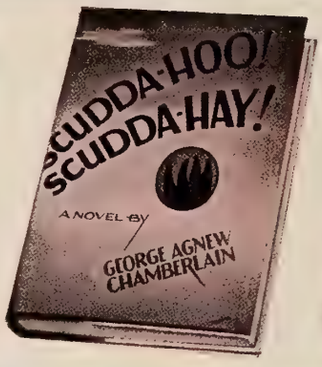


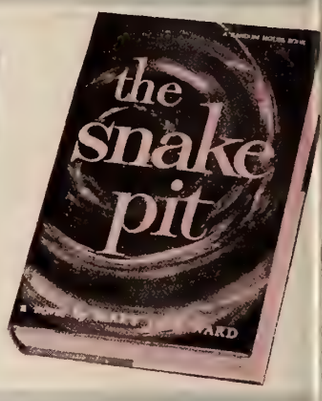




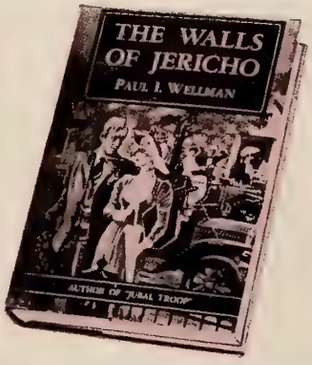


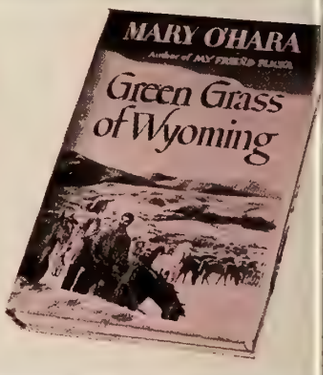




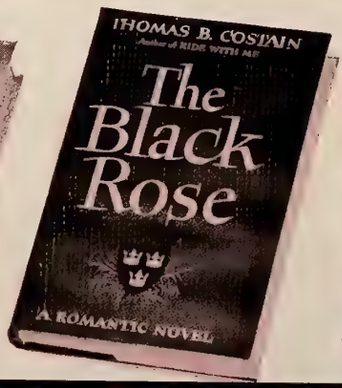


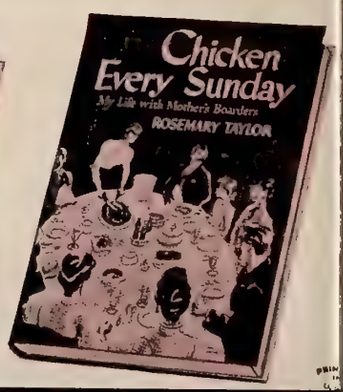












45 in Work as 7 Films Start And 7 Finish

HOLLYWOOD, June 26.—With seven new pictures going before the cameras to balance the same number sent to the cutting rooms, the production level remained even with last week's total of 45 shooting. The production scene:

Columbia

Finished: "Last Days of Boot Hill," "The Sea Hound," "The Man from Colorado."

Shooting: "The Mating of Millie," "When a Girl's Beautiful," "I Love Trouble" (Cornell), "It Had to Be You."

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: "Adventures of Casanova."

Enterprise

Shooting: "They Passed This Way."

Goldwyn

Started: "That's Life," with Danny Kaye, Virginia Mayo, Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Charlie Barnet, Louis Armstrong, Lionel Hampton.

M-G-M

Started: "Virtuous," with Van Johnson, June Allyson, Butch Jenkins, Hume Cronyn, Una Merkel, Arlene Dahl. "High Wall," with Robert Taylor, Audrey Totter and Curtis Bernhardt.

Finished: "The Pirate."

Shooting: "Killer McCoy," "On an Island with You," "If Winter Comes," "Cass Timberlane," "The Kissing Bandit."

Paramount

Started: "Night Has a Thousand Eyes," with Edward G. Robinson, Joan Caulfield, John Lund.

Finished: "Big Town Scandal" (Pine-Thomas).

Shooting: "Dream Girl."

PRC

Started: "Check Your Guns," with Eddie Dean, Roscoe Ates, Nancy Gates, Ray Taylor, Jerry Thomas. "Blonde Savage" (Ensign), with Lief Erickson, Gale Sherwood, Douglas Dumbrille, Veda Ann Borg.

Republic

Shooting: "The Fabulous Texan," "The Red Pony" (Feldman).

RKO Radio

Finished: "Memory of Love."

Shooting: "I Remember Mama," "Mourning Becomes Electra," "Return of the Bad Men."

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie."

20th-Fox

Shooting: "Gentleman's Agreement," "Foxes of Harrow," "Off to Buffalo," "Nightmare Alley," "Green Grass of Wyoming," "Roses Are Red" (Wurtzel).

United Artists

Finished: "Without Honor" (Hopalong Cassidy).

Shooting: "The Time of Your Life" (Cagney), "Sleep My Love."

Universal-International

Started: "The Naked City" (Hellinger), with Barry Fitzgerald, Howard Duff, Dorothy Hart, Don Taylor.

Shooting: "Tap Roots" (Wanger-Marshall), "Imagination" (Kanin), "Adventures of Black Bart," "Wistful Widow of Wagon Gap," "Ride the Pink Horse," "The Exile."

Warners

Shooting: "Mary Hagen," "Romance in High C" (Curtiz), "Love at First Sight," "Ever the Beginning," "Silver River," "Treasure of the Sierra Madre."

Eric Johnston to SMPE Convention

Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, has accepted the invitation of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers to be the principal speaker at the opening luncheon of the 62nd semi-annual convention of the society, to be held October 20-24 in the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

In his acceptance, which necessarily is contingent upon his not being called out of town on that date, Johnston said: "The motion picture theatre has been a pioneer in developing many of the features of modern building design with which we have become so familiar in recent years. It has been a leader in the use of new materials in building construction; of air-conditioning, of acoustical treatment, of scientific lighting, and of innumerable advances in providing for the safety and comfort of its patrons.

"In many ways the growth and development of modern theatres has been responsible for the healthy progress of the modern motion picture industry. This development is about to take on new momentum. It offers a great field for the improvement and expansion of our business—right here in our own country."

U, Skirball-Manning Deal Is Abrogated

Universal-International and Jack H. Skirball-Bruce Manning Productions announced here yesterday that the contract between the two organizations had been dissolved amicably and by mutual consent. Skirball-Manning will maintain headquarters on the U-I Coast lot until shortly after July 1.

Dissolution arrangements leaves the script for the proposed "Portrait in Black," with Universal-International. Among the properties that Jack Skirball and Bruce Manning retain are the Hammerstein-Romberg "Sunny River," "For Services Rendered," John O'Hara's "Appointment in Samara," "The Barren Heart," "The Wind Is Blind" and "The Desert Padre," by Irving Stone. Commitment for the services of Carol Reed, English director, also stays with Skirball-Manning.

Conn. MPTO To Hold Golf Tourney Aug. 5

NEW HAVEN, June 26.—The MPTO of Connecticut will hold its annual golf tournament at Racebrook Country Club, Orange, Conn., on Aug. 5, according to George H. Wilkinson Jr., president.

Officers for the tournament include: Wilkinson, chairman; Lou Brown, publicist; Ted Jacocks, treasurer; Herman M. Levy, secretary. The exhibitors' committee includes: Max Hoffman, Albert Pickus, John Perakos, James Darby, Harry F. Shaw and Samuel Rosen. The distributors' committee includes: Henry Germaine, Paramount, chairman; Carl Goe, Warners, and Arthur Greenfield, Universal.

Set 25th and Final WB '46-'47 Release

"Cry Wolf" will be Warner's final picture on its 1946-47 schedule of 21 new features and four re-issues. In 1945-46, the company released 20, plus four re-issues.

"Cry Wolf" will go into national distribution in mid-August, with bookings in Atlantic City, New Orleans and approximately 100 houses in New England, the South and West, the company reports.

$31,266,930 Ticket Tax

WASHINGTON, June 26.—General admission tax collections in May reflecting mainly April box-office receipts, totalled $31,266,930, a slight drop from both the April, 1947, and May, 1946, collections, according to figures released by the Treasury Department here today.

The figure for general admission tax collections in April, 1947, was $33,412,813, while in May of last year it was $32,422,313.

These figures do not include collections for roof gardens and cabarets, brokers' ticket sales, leases of boxes or seats, and overcharges. May, 1947, figures show a drop in all these categories as well.

Total for all categories, including general admission collections, was $36,145,428 in May of this year, compared with $38,619,325 in April and $39,499,268 in May, 1946.

Cabaret and roof garden collections showed the largest drop, totaling $4,710,965 last May, compared with $4,888,257 in April and $6,888,969 in May of last year.

Berman, Schoham in Loew's Shift Abroad

Appointment of Julian Berman as M-G-M manager for Cuba was announced here yesterday by Morton A. Spring, vice-president of Loew's International Corp. Berman, who left here by air yesterday to assume his new post, takes over from Robert O. Schoham who will go to Sweden as special home office representative. Schoham will leave for Sweden shortly after Berman's arrival.

Both have been M-G-M managers overseas for many years. Berman has occupied posts in the Far East and has served as territorial manager in Latin America. Schoham, formerly M-G-M manager in Finland, has been territorial manager in Puerto Rico and Cuba.

Dinner for Flynn Is Postponed Until Sept.

CHICAGO, June 26.—Because many industry people are away on vacations, the testimonial dinner for Jack Flynn, retiring Midwestern sales manager of M-G-M, originally scheduled for Monday, has been postponed.

The dinner is now scheduled for September, at which time the Variety Club will join the industry in honoring Flynn.

'Freedom' Parley Will Confer Again

WASHINGTON, June 26.—Representatives of the motion pictures and other media held a day-long session here today, looking toward the establishment of a permanent inter-media group to fight encroachments on freedom of expression. No final decision was made at the meeting, and the delegates agreed to discuss the matter with their respective boards and meet again at a later date.

The group visited briefly at the White House with President Truman, who assured them of his support in their efforts.

Motion picture representatives included Kenneth Clark for the Motion Picture Association; Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers; and Donald J. Russell, an associate of industry counsel James F. Byrnes. Other officials represented radio, book publishers, magazine publishers, and newspapers. The conference was called by Justin Miller, president of the National Association of Broadcasters.

One official explained that none of the delegates had any power to commit his organization to a permanent plan.

Clark told the conference that 181 cities with populations of more than 25,000 have film censorship ordinances. "You can't count the number with population under 25,000 that have restrictions," he added.

Clubwomen's Annual Film Award Today

A film-division luncheon will be given today by the General Federation of Women's Clubs at the Hotel Commodore, here. Executives of the Motion Picture Association and of other branches of the film industry will attend.

The Federation will launch an annual award at the luncheon, to the picture which most nearly portrays the highest ideals of American life. The Federation has been in convention here all of this week.

"Arch" Ad Budget Is Set at $1,000,000

HOLLYWOOD, June 26.—An advertising-exploitation budget of $1,000,000 has been set by Enterprise Productions for "Arch of Triumph" with the campaign to span August, September and October, in conformity with a three-month promotional concentration policy adopted by company executives at their current planning meetings at the studio.

Aids Orphans' Outing

Joan Leslie, star of Eagle-Lion's "Repeat Performance" which opens at the Rivoli Theatre here today, will visit Mayor O'Dwyer at City Hall today to purchase from him the first ticket for the 11th annual outing for 7,000 orphans, to be held Monday.

Century Personnel Head

Robert Ulman has been named personnel manager for Century Theatres, by J. R. Springer, general manager. Ulman most recently served as labor relations manager for the Ansco camera division of General Aniline and Film Corp.

Library of Congress Film Section Cut

WASHINGTON, June 26.—Plans of the Library of Congress to serve as a central storage and distribution point for Government-owned films and as a depository for important commercially-produced films got a jolt here today from the House Appropriations Committee.

The Library's film section had asked for $370,500 for the coming year to increase its staff and for new plans for the project. The House group gave it only $85,000—$15,000 less than last year.

Moreover, the committee said that it believed this project "will cost an amount out of all proportion to its value." It urged that before next year a study be made to determine "the extent to which it is practicable for the Government to carry on this kind of activity, and whether or not the Library of Congress is the logical agency to administer it if it is determined that the expenditure of public funds for such a purpose is necessary."

The Library's film program got its first setback earlier this year when it was announced that plans had been abandoned to get this session of Congress to appropriate funds for a new film storage building.

OGR Head Urges Aid For Film Section

WASHINGTON, June 26.—Katherine C. Blackburn, head of the Office of Government Reports, has warned a Senate appropriations sub-committee that failure to grant funds to the motion picture liaison section would result in an increasing number and duplication in Government requests on the motion picture industry.

Meanwhile a move was reported in both House and Senate to get limited budgets for advertising and film liaison sections restored as part of the White House budget.

Marshall Pleads for Overseas Program

WASHINGTON, June 26.—Secretary of State Marshall has made a belated request to the Senate Appropriations Committee for an additional $3,000,000 for the overseas information program.

Indications were that his testimony before a closed meeting of the committee fell on deaf ears. The committee on Tuesday reported a $15,000,000 budget for the program for the coming fiscal year.

3rd Novel for WB Writer

David Goodis, Warner Brothers writer, will have his third novel brought out next fall by Appleton-Century, titled "Behold This Woman." Goodis also wrote "Dark Passage," recently completed film starring Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall.

"The Hucksters"

(*Continued from page* 1)

with lovely Deborah Kerr, who emerges the winner over luscious Ava Gardner. But it is a long road he travels in a film running a long 115 minutes. The signposts along the way poke ridicule at radio for its moronic commercials and its pandering to mentalities of those of 14 years and less. The satire is biting and will prove funny to audiences at large. Radio, or at least those in radio who fall into the pattern of this story, come off without honor.

Not so with Gable, however. With Miss Kerr prepared to be his bride and a successful show under his belt, he becomes fed up to the hilt with the sham and lack of personal respect which are part and parcel of his job. In a sequence which has been building all through the picture, he tells off Greenstreet for the despot he is and walks out of a fat deal into unemployment. But Miss Kerr is there, feeding encouragement and suggesting that the future for them both will be all right.

"The Hucksters," then, has Gable performing a first-class job in a role which his following will appreciate. Miss Kerr, who came over from London to appear in this as her first American film, is excellent. Miss Gardner is very good also, and this goes for Greenstreet in a part entirely different from his many forerunners, and for Menjou and Edward Arnold as the Agent, as well as Keenan Wynn as the dim-wit comic. Nevertheless, this picture is a mixture in pace. Its opening is fast and sets the stage, but the rate of speed slows down rather noticeably before matters get too far advanced. The explanation could be that the opening sprints were too much to maintain. Correct or otherwise, what is on the screen is on the screen, and nothing changes that. "The Hucksters" is one for heavy grosses, its lapses notwithstanding.

The Wakeman novel was adapted by Edward Chodorov and George Wells and thereafter prepared in script form by Luther Davis. Jack Conway directed and Arthur Hornblow, Jr., produced.

Running time, 115 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, in August.

RED KANN

Ohio ITO Seeks US-UK Goodwill

Columbus, O., June 26.—J. Arthur Rank has been invited to accept a speaking date at the Ohio Independent Theatre Owners convention, July 14-16, at Cedar Point, O., "as a goodwill gesture toward that vast army of average exhibitors who desire to co-operate to make a better understanding between the American and British film industries."

Bunin to Paris for 'Alice in Wonderland'

Lou Bunin left here by plane for Paris last night to begin production there on Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland," which he expects to complete by next March.

Prior to his departure, Bunin said that the world releasing plans had not been decided yet on the $1,500,000 production, which will probably be in Technicolor. He said he had picked Paris for production because he had been unable to make arrangements in this country for making the film in color. Bunin added that costs will be 25 to 35 per cent more in Paris, since he is accompanied by 34 technicians.

The only "live" character will be "Alice," and Bunin expects to pick a girl in England to play the part of "Alice." The other characters will be "three-dimension" animated puppets.

The principal backer of the film is the Union General Cinematographique, France's largest production-distribution concern.

Video Production At Peak in May

WASHINGTON, June 26.—Television receiver production climbed to a new all-time high in May, according to the Radio Manufacturers Association, although FM production and total output for all types of sets dropped.

May television set production was 8,690 units, compared with 7,886 for the April period, bringing total output for the year to 34,895 sets. FM set production in May totaled 84,587 units, a sharp drop from the 112,256 produced in April. FM production for the first five months totaled 368,939.

So far this year 7,397,502 sets of all types have been produced. May production of all types was 1,316,373, compared with 1,759,723 in April.

Bookers' Dinner Monday

New York's Motion Picture Bookers Club will hold its annual dinner-dance at the Hotel Pennsylvania here on Monday, Oscar Lager, chairman, announces. Irving Kaplan of the Randforce circuit is handling reservations.

Change Lloyd Title

"Mad Wednesday" is the new title of the Harold Lloyd picture, produced by California Pictures and scheduled for United Artists release. The original title was "The Sin of Harold Diddlebock."

Special Durbin Trailer

Universal-International has prepared a special 10-minute trailer on "Something in the Wind", forthcoming Deanna Durbin film.

Hollywood

Hollywood, June 2

RECENT major studio announcements of planned globe-girdling location treks for many of their top bracket pictures will get fulfillment in the production of Warners' "To the Victors." A melodrama of postwar Europe, many of its scenes will be filmed on the Continent, partially in Paris, with Viveca Lindfors and Dennis Morgan in the starring roles, Delmer Daves directing and Jerry Wald as producer.

•

New story purchases include "Miss X," a Faith Baldwin novel, by Republic, and Warners' acquisition of "Old Enough to Know Better," an original by Peter Milne, which William Jacobs is scheduled to produce. . . . Franchot Tone announces the purchase of Gordon McDonnell's mystery novel, "My Sister, Goodnight," for Cornell Pictures, which he heads. . . .

•

It looks like a busy six months ahead for James Cagney. Producer William Cagney has set August as the starting time for "The Stray Lamb," and Nov. 15 as the date when "A Lion Is in the Streets" will go before the cameras, with brother Jimmy as star of both. . . . Paramount has three top pictures on the starting line for the next 30 days. First will be "My Own True Love," starring Phyllis Calvert and Melvyn Douglas, to be followed by "Night Has a Thousand Eyes," starring Edward G. Robinson, and Bob Hope's latest, "Paleface," in Technicolor.

•

RKO Radio has signed Robert Sparks to a new long-term producer contract. . . . Robert H. Buckner, producer of Warner's "Life with Father," has been given a writer-producer contract at Universal-International. . . . Albert Lewin renews his long association with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in a top production capacity. While away from the Culver City lot for a brief time, he produced "The Affairs of Bel Ami". . . . As his second directorial chore, Richard Sale, former screen writer, has been set to direct an untitled musical at Republic. . . . James Kern will direct "Barbary Host," comedy drama, for Warners, with William Jacobs as producer.

•

Ward Bond and Broderick Crawford draw featured roles in the current James Cagney starrers, "The Time of Your Life," being directed by H. C. Potter

W. J. McG.

Solves Vacation Tangle

HARLAN, IA., June 26.—Ray Brown, owner of two theatres here, has found a way to give all employes vacations without straining staffs. He will close the Cozy during July and August and the Cozy during July and August.

LADD & LAMOUR WILL SURF

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

There are a few bright spots on the current box-office horizon, but on the whole grosses are not reaching the higher brackets. Weekend weather was pleasantly warm. Estimated receipts for the week ending June 24-27:

BETTY CO-ED (Col.) and FRONTIER FIGHTERS (PRC)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,100)
CHEYENNE (WB)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000)
DESTRY RIDES AGAIN (U-I reissue) and WHEN THE DALTONS RODE (U-I reissue)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 4 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average, 7 days: $5,000)
FRAMED (Col.)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3 days, 2nd showing, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $2,000. (Average, 7 days: $5,000)
LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $8,000)
THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (UA)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000)
TOO MANY WINNERS (PRC) and TRAILING DANGER (Mono.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600)
THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)
THE WEB (U-I)—KEITHS (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,500)

KANSAS CITY

Heavy rains nearly every day, with streets flooded Sunday evening, checked theatre attendance. The Paramount will hold "Perils of Pauline." Estimated receipts for the week ending July 1-3:

BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c). Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,750)
BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c). Gross: $10,300. (Average: $9,000)
BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c). Gross: $5,100. (Average: $6,000)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—MIDLAND (3,500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average at regular prices of 45c-65: $15,000)
GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) and DANGER STREET (Para.)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)
MEET JOHN DOE (Astor)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c). Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,000)
PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (formerly NEWMAN) (1,900) (45c-65c) 7½ days. Gross (including cancer benefit first night at advanced prices): $16,000. (Average: $11,000)

CLEVELAND

"Duel in the Sun" and "Miracle on 34th Street" were top boxoffice attractions here this week. Weather was clear. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 24-25:

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (Advanced prices: 75c-$1.20). Gross: $20,000. (Average at regular prices of 55c-70c: $30,000)
CALCUTTA (Para.)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c) 3rd week, and 2nd week of a moveover. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,000)
CHEYENNE (WB)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $18,400)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $29,000. (Average at regular prices: $11,000)
MIRACLE OF 34TH ST. (20th-Fox)—(55c-70c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $12,000)
THIS HAPPY BREED (U-I)—LOWER MALL (563) (45c-65c). Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,500)
THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $22,000)
TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (55c-70c) 4th week. Gross: $2,800. (Average: $3,600)

PITTSBURGH

"Duel in the Sun" did $26,000 in its second and final week at the Penn, showing at advanced prices, and for a second week "Miracle on 34th Street" did better than average at the Harris. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 26:

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue) and BACK LASH (20th-Fox)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,400)
CHEYENNE (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $25,000)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—PENN (3,400) (Advanced prices: 95c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average at regular prices of 40c-55c-70c: $25,000)
HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,700)
MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,000)
THE PERFECT MARRIAGE (Para.)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $15,000)
THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 4th week on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,200)

OMAHA

Two first-runs were close to par while two were well out in front in a week of rain. Sunday matinee business was cut to almost nil by more than three inches of rain. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 25-26:

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox) and THE BIG FIX (PRC)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,500)
THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and LITTLE MISTER JIM (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,300)
MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c). Gross: $14,100. (Average: $10,600)
FRAMED (Col.) and LITTLE MISS BROADWAY (Col.)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,100) (50c-65c). Gross: $7,800. (Average: $6,600)

ST. LOUIS

Business was generally slow with the citywide street-car and bus strike in its second week. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 25:

CHASE, THE (UA) and FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY (Col.)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,500)
COPACABANA (UA) and THE GUILT OF JANET AMES (Col.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $19,500)
DEAR RUTH (Para.) and JUNGLE FLIGHT (Para.)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,300)
FARMER'S DAUGHTER (RKO Radio) and CHILD OF DIVORCE (RKO Radio)—SHUBERT (2,000) (40c-50c-60c). On a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $5,700)
HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox) and SINBAD THE SAILOR (RKO Radio)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,500)
IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Mono.-Allied Artists) and THE GUILTY (Mono.)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $18,800)
THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.) and BORN TO SPEED (PRC)—AMBASSADOR (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $16,500)

MINNEAPOLIS

"Duel in the Sun" had a lucrative double opening to lead the week's business. Remainder of the loop theatre business was only moderately good. Estimated grosses for the week ended June 26:

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—CENTURY (1,500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $20,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-70c: $7,300)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—LYRIC (1,100) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $17,500. (Average at regular prices of 50c-70c: $5,600)
FRAMED (Col.)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $14,500)
THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $18,000)
KIT CARSON (PRC reissue)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: $4,800. (Average: $3,400)
STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $10,500. (Average: $13,000)
THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover from the Orpheum. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,500)

SALT LAKE CITY

Weather ranged from thunderstorms to fair, but extremely cooler, and served to push up grosses to average or above. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 25:

ANGEL AND THE BAD MAN (Rep.)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,800)
BLAZE OF NOON (Para.) and JEWELS OF BRANDERBURG (20th-Fox)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,300)
BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.) and RIDING THE CALIFORNIA TRAIL (Mono.)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c) with vaudeville. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,850)
THE DEVIL ON WHEELS (PRC) and LOST HONEYMOON (Eagle-Lion)—RIALTO (800) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $3,700. (Average: $3,700)
HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $5,900. (Average: $5,900)
MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c). Gross: $15,900. (Average: $13,600)

Danger Area Widens As Flood Waters Rise

Kansas City, June 26.—Missouri River flood waters have reached record levels, with the crest moving from Southeastern Nebraska towards Missouri. New rains threatened in the danger area, which includes Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas.

In many cases, dikes controlling the rivers were torn by other recent floods.

Selects 'Wyoming' as Official State Film

Gov. Lester C. Hunt of Wyoming has proclaimed Republic's "Wyoming" as the official motion picture of the state's 51st annual Frontier Days celebration, according to Republic's home office here.

The film will have its world premiere at the Lincoln and Paramount Theatres in Cheyenne, on July 23. June 23 was originally mentioned. Republic stars William Elliott and Vera Ralston will be guests of F. H. Ricketson, president of Fox Intermountain Theatres in Denver, prior to the premiere.

4-City Premiere for 'Bob, Son of Battle'

A four-city premiere for 20th Century-Fox's "Bob, Son of Battle" will be held in Denver, Salt Lake City, Portland and Seattle on July 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Lon McCallister, star of the film, and Glenn Langan, Randy Stuart, Coleen Townsend, David Street and Kurt Krueger will participate in radio broadcasts, press receptions, stage appearances and civic events. The group will meet the governors of Colorado and Oregon.

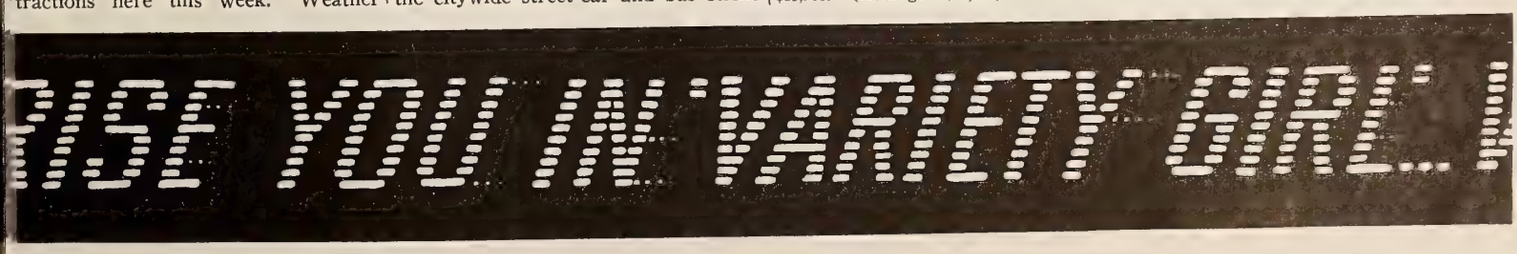
Rampart Sets Zweig Story As Its First

HOLLYWOOD, June 26. — Rampart Productions, the company formed by William Dozier and Joan Fontaine, today definitely set Stefan Zweig's "Letter from an Unknown Woman," as the first picture it will produce for Universal-International release, to star Miss Fontaine.

Production is slated to get under way Aug. 18 with John Houseman as producer and Max Opuls directing, from Howard Koch's screenplay.

New Newman House

SEATTLE, June 26.—Frank L. Newman, Jr., yesterday opened his new Ballard Theatre. Operated by Jensen and Von Herberg for 20 years as the Bagdad, the Ballard has been completely redecorated and refurnished. The new house seats 838 and is offering "California" for its opening.



Kirsch System

(*Continued from page* 1)

branch managers or division managers in the field. The Kirsch testimonial was the climax of New Jersey Allied's three-day 28th annual convention which was held at the Ambassador Hotel, here.

Kirsch was introduced by New Jersey Allied president Edward Lachman, who said: "It is only natural that our organization should pay tribute to him (Kirsch) in this manner because in our eyes he represents everything that a national leader of Allied should be." He lauded Kirsch for the special efforts which the latter has made in behalf of the New Jersey unit, and said that "only with a president who stands for the principles which Jack Kirsch stands for and which he exemplifies by his spirit, his conduct and action can the differences which exist between independent exhibitors be settled satisfactorily and permanently."



Edward Lachman

Lachman cited Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, who was present, as a "great humanitarian and a great industry leader" and said he has "brought tremendous public acclaim for our business." He also paid tribute to 20th-Fox exhibitor-public relations director Sam Shain for aiding in setting convention arrangements.

Hits 'Unfair Attitude'

Kirsch declared that sales executives have, from time to time, indicated a decided preference for considering customer complaints only when registered by the customers individually in their own behalf, and a reluctance to deal with a third party acting in behalf of the exhibitor. He termed that attitude "very unfair" on the grounds that the individual exhibitor "has no information to match that held by the distributor." The individual exhibitor, he said, "cannot hope to win the argument, and rarely does."

Addressing himself to "the day when the courts have had their final say and the Government has dropped its surveillance and the industry is again on its own," Kirsch queried: "Will the same mistakes be repeated, will the Government again have to step in to set things to rights, or will we by that time be adult enough to conduct our affairs on a fair and reasonable basis and thus avoid the clutches of the law?"

"I can tell," said Kirsch, "that some of my distributor friends are pondering the amount of time and effort which such a system would involve. I will make no attempt to gloss that over; it will take time and effort and, above all, patience. But in the long run, I am confident it will be worth all that is put into it. It will pay dividends in generating understanding and building confidence. It will create good will and enable all branches to present a solid front to outside enemies.

"In the long run," he declared, "it may even save time. One company official has complained that he cannot carry on his business if he is compelled to spend all of his time at the court house. Well, a proper system for easing the stress and strain might very well reduce the number of visits which a United States Marshal makes to his office every year."

Kirsch called for "better understanding and a greater degree of cooperation" between exhibitors and distributors. "The misunderstanding and distrust that prevail today are largely due to the lack of permanent points of contact between them," he held.

'Mechanics' of System

In explaining a possible method under which the system would work, Kirsch said he was making his proposal in "the most general terms." Under its operation, he said, the Allied regional vice-president, or the head of the regional association would first seek an adjustment of a member's complaint by the regional branch manager or division manager of a distributing company. "Failing that," he said, "the complaint could be forwarded to the president of National Allied for presentation to company executives. If the complaint relates to matters other than film rentals, and is within the province of some other Allied officer, then he should be the one to present them to the companies involved."

Citing successes which he himself has had in taking up with sales managers in New York the situations of individual members of his Illinois Allied, Kirsch said "that is a practice which I should like to see spread throughout Allied and eventually all over the United States.

"I am not looking for a permanent assignment for Jack Kirsch," he emphasized. "The willingness of a company executive to deal with an officer or agent of an exhibitor organization ought not to depend upon the latter's personality. The weakness in attempting to discriminate on that basis is that personal dislikes are too often fashioned on first impressions."

"If," he said, addressing himself to distributor representatives, "you will open your mind and try to become as well acquainted with all exhibitor leaders as some of you are with me, you will find that the great majority of them are entirely worthy of your confidence."

Cautions On Statements

Kirsch cautioned the gathering that, "As I air my views tonight it will be borne in mind that they are the views of Jack Kirsch—or of the president of National Allied—but they do not reflect the policies of the association except as they have been or may hereafter be accepted by the board of directors."

He paid tribute to the work of Lachman, Harry Lowenstein, Lee Newbury, Irving Dollinger and E. Thornton Kelley.

Allied Production

(*Continued from page* 1)

they feel are required and can be forthcoming.

A couple of proposals discussed are on the basis of $300,000 in pledged contracts. On the basis of an average rental of $60 per Allied theatre, this would mean a guarantee of 5,000 theatres. Allied is in no position to deliver such guarantees, it is privately acknowledged.

10% Tax Cut Will Satisfy: Kirsch

Atlantic City, June 26.—National Allied favors a reduction of Federal admission taxes by 10 per cent and if it gets this, it will be satisfied, according to Jack Kirsch, Allied president.

He stated that his organization is ready and eager to join any combination of exhibitor associations agreeing with Allied's approach for a united front in Washington to fight for a reduction. The MPTOA and the ATA have already combined to present their own plan.

N. J. Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

plan yesterday, but the convention terminated without action.

In fact, the convention was unique in that no single resolution on any matter was passed although several were considered.

Protagonists of the 20th-Fox policy took the position that the relief contemplated for approximately 6,000 theatres which fall within the purview of the formula, meant a decided gain. While the policy was no cure-all, they maintained, it was evidently broad enough to embrace about 40 per cent of the nation's theatres on the basis of an estimated national total of 16,000.

"If 6,000 theatres are affected, I say that's quite a benefit," observed Kirsch of the plan which will be adopted experimentally in New Haven on Monday.

Opponents of Plan

Among opponents of the company's plan, which introduces a sliding scale into 20th-Fox sales methods for the first time, Irving Dollinger, for instance, frowned on any plan which would limit theatre profits, while Wilbur Snaper questioned a proposal under which the distributor voluntarily would appear to curtail his income. Dollinger then voiced the opinion that 20th-Fox might be motivated by an opportunity to improve its public relations.

Reiterating the position he took Wednesday, Kirsch declared that it would be up to the exhibitors to see that the company adheres to its promise. He expressed a hope that the company would revise its policy if the experimental period indicates a need for revamping.

Kirsch also revealed that he expects to present to the National Allied board an undisclosed plan under which distributors would be induced to observe any new national policy which might be announced. At this point, he took a crack at M-G-M on its 19-point program without identifying the company by name. Although he did not develop the point, Kirsch, by inference, charged that M-G-M had not fulfilled its promise in the 19 points.

Other Topics Discussed

Other highlights of the short open forum session were these: Kirsch and Brandt maintained that buying combines would not be affected under the Consent Decree, and a suggestion from the floor that unorganized territories consider such combines was referred to National Allied directors; Kirsch declared that the last six months had found conditions swinging from a seller's to a buyer's market; Dollinger declared that a survey of product availability showed 16 fewer releases by Aug. 1 as compared with the same period of 1946.

Harry Loewenstein charged at the convention that the wave of high rentals can be traced to the cost of film checking, with distributors seeking added terms to meet "the freight." John Byrne, M-G-M's Eastern district manager replied in rebuttal.

Other addresses at the convention were made by Max Gillis, Republic; Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio; Mark Silver, United Artists, W. C. Gehring, Ray Moon, Martin Moskowitz, Sam Shain and Seymour Florin of 20th Century-Fox. David Palfreyman of the Motion Picture Association discussed progress being made by the MPA's "Children's Film Library" program.

In addition a question of reducing prices to bolster sagging grosses found Allied members unanimously opposed to any such step. The forum was followed by a closed session.

Edward Lachman was re-elected president for a second year; Harry Hech, Passaic, Northern Jersey vice-president, succeeding Simon Meyers, deceased; Sam Frank, Hammonton, re-elected Southern Jersey vice-president; Haskell Lock, Newark, was re-elected secretary; David Snaper, New Brunswick, re-elected treasurer. Re-elected for three years as directors were: L. Martin, Passaic; Ralph Wilkins, Pitman; Wilbur Snaper, South River; while Maurice Miller was elected director for a one-year term. Other directors were not up for action.

'IA' Talks on Taft Law

(*Continued from page* 1)

were: Thomas J. Shea, assistant international president, who heads the union in the absence abroad of Richard F. Walsh, international president; William P. Raoul, general secretary-treasurer; Frank Murdoch, attorney of Philadelphia, and representatives of the law firm of Judge Matthew M. Levy.

It is possible that local union officials may be called to the conference to give opinions on how the new law will affect their contracts.

Meanwhile, local membership meetings, both of the 'IA' and the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, have been held to discuss the new law. Motion Picture Home Office Employes Local No. H-63, met Tuesday night here and heard Russell Moss, executive vice-president of the local, discuss the act. Local No. 109, SOPEG, met last night for a similar review.

There exists a feeling on the part of some union officials that the full effects of the new law on contracts and on new organizing will not be felt for several months.

Any decision which may come from the present top 'IA' meeting will have to await Walsh's return from Europe. He is expected to sail from England on July 9. Any decision on policy would then have to be submitted to the next meeting of the 'IA' international executive board, expected to be held in August.

20th-Fox Signs NSS

ATLANTIC CITY, June 26.—National Screen Service will begin handling 20th Century-Fox advertising accessories on Monday, George Dembow, vice-president of NSS announced here today.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
May 31	THE MILLERSON CASE Warner Baxter PRAIRIE RAIDERS Charles Starrett THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. George Brent Joan Blondell D—87 min.	(May Releases) HIGH BARBAREE Van Johnson June Allyson D—91 min. (Rev. 3/13/47)	SONG OF THE WASTELAND Jimmy Wakely O	CALCUTTA Alan Ladd Wm. Bendix D—83 min. (Rev. 4/16/47)	KILLER AT LARGE Robert Lowery O—63 min. (Rev. 6/19/47)		(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)	(May Releases) THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR Rex Harrison Gene Tierney D—104 min. (7157) (Rev. 5/16/47)	(Sam Coslow) COPACABANA Groucho Marx Carmen Miranda M—92 mins. (Rev. 5/22/47)	(May Releases) TIME OUT OF MIND Phyllis Calvert Robert Hutton Ella Raines D—88 mins. (Rev. 3/7/47)	
June 1		UNDERCOVER MAISIE Ann Sothern Barry Nelson C—90 min. (Rev. 3/4/47)			STEPCHILD Brenda Joyce D—70 min. (Rev. 6/13/47)	THAT'S MY MAN Don Ameche Catherine McLeod D—104 min. (Rev. 4/7/47)	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)	HOMESTRETCH Cornel Wilde Maureen O'Hara D—96 min. (713) (Rev. 4/18/47)		(Reissue) MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION Irene Dunne Robert Taylor D—101 min. (2795)	
June 8		(Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)			PHILO VANCE RETURNS William Wright D—64 min. (Rev. 4/30/47)		DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47)	JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG Richard Travis Micheline Cheirel D—64 min. (716) (Rev. 4/10/47)		(Reissue) 100 MEN AND A GIRL Deanna Durbin Leopold Stokowski D—84 min. (2796)	CHEYENNE Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman O—100 mins. (622) (Rev. 4/23/47)
June 15	LITTLE MISS BROADWAY Jean Porter M—69 min.	THE YEARLING Gregory Peck Jane Wyman D—134 min. (717) (Rev. 11/27/46)	HIGH CONQUEST Anna Lee Warren Douglas D—83 mins. (620) (Rev. 3/13/47)	DANGER STREET Jane Withers D—66 min. (4623) (Rev. 2/27/47)		WEB OF DANGER Adele Mara D—58 min. (Rev. 6/18/47) SADDLE PALS Gene Autry O—72 min. (Rev. 6/18/47)	(June Releases) DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)	(June Releases) MOSS ROSE Peggy Cummins Victor Mature D—82 min. (717) (Rev. 5/22/47)	(Comet) STORK BITES MAN Jackie Cooper C	(June Releases) ODD MAN OUT James Mason Robert Newton D—113 min. (Rev. 2/26/47)	
June 22	SPORT OF KINGS Paul Campbell D—68 min. SWING THE WESTERN WAY Jack Leonard O—66 min.	(June Releases) LIVING IN A BIG WAY Gene Kelly Marie McDonald D—103 min. (Rev. 5/29/47)		THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—80 min. (4614) (Rev. 4/28/47)	HEARTACHES Sheila Ryan D—71 min. (704) PIONEER JUSTICE Al La Rue O—56 min. (753)	NORTHWEST OUTPOST Nelson Eddy Ilona Massey D—91 min. (615) (Rev. 5/12/47)	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)	MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET Maureen O'Hara John Payne D—96 min. (718) (Rev. 5/2/47)		THE WEB Edward O'Brien Ella Raines William Bendix D—87 min. (615) (Rev. 5/22/47)	
June 29	STRANGER FROM PONCA CITY Smiley Burnette O	DARK DELUSION James Craig Lucille Bremer D—90 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)	KILROY WAS HERE Jackie. Cooper Jackie Coogan D—(621)	THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Color) Betty Hutton John Lund C—96 min. (4615) (Rev. 5/26/47)		RUSTLERS OF DEVIL'S CANYON Alan Lane O—58 min.	(Block 7) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)	(Reissue) WESTERN UNION Robert Young O—93 min. (719) (Rev. 2/3/41)		IVY Joan Fontaine Herbert Marshall Patric Knowles D—99 min. (Rev. 6/9/47)	THE UNFAITHFUL Ann Sheridan Lew Ayres D—109 min. (623) (Rev. 5/27/47)
July 6	KEEPER OF THE BEES Michael Duane Gloria Henry D	(July Releases) CYNTHIA Elizabeth Taylor Mary Astor D—98 min. (Rev. 5/20/47)	NEWS HOUNDS Leo Gorcey D—68 min (622) (Rev. 6/18/47)						(Enterprise) THE OTHER LOVE Barbara Stanwyck David Niven D—96 min. (Rev. 3/28/47)	(July Releases) THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay O—67 min. (Rev. 6/2/47)	
July 13	GUNFIGHTERS (Color) Randolph Scott O—87 min. (Rev. 6/13/47)	FIESTA (Color) Esther Williams M—104 min. (Rev. 6/12/47)		DEAR RUTH Joan Caulfield William Holden C—95 min. (4616) (Rev. 5/28/47)	GASHOUSE KIDS GO WEST Gashouse Kids Chili Williams D—(711)	THE TRESPASSER Dale Evans D—71 min. SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min.	(July Releases) BOB, SON OF BATTLE Lon McCallister Peggy Ann Garner Edmund Gwenn D—103 min. (720) (Rev. 6/5/47)		(Hopalong Cassidy) HOPPY'S HOLIDAY William Boyd O—60 min. (Rev. 5/5/47)		
July 20	PACIFIC ADVENTURE Lon Randall Muriel Steinbeck D—80 min.			I COVER BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—63 min. (2/27/47)	GHOST TOWN RENEGADES Al La Rue O (754)		UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (Rev. 6/17/47)	MEET ME AT DAWN William Eythe Hazel Court D 99 min. (721)	(Hunt Stromberg) LURED Lucille Ball George Sanders D	GREAT EXPECTATIONS John Mills Valerie Hobson Francis L. Sullivan D—115 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)	POSSESSED Joan Crawford Van Heflin D—108 min. (624) (Rev. 5/29/47)
July 27			(Allied Artists) BLACK GOLD Anthony Quinn D 92 min. (Rev. 6/25/47)				RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (Rev. 6/12/47)	THE CRIMSON KEY Kent Taylor D 76 min. (722)			
Aug. 3							CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (Rev. 6/25/47)				

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.]*





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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 61. NO. 126 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, JUNE 30, 1947 TEN CENTS

Court Ruling Prompts ATA To Affiliate

Says Changes Under U.S. Decision Demand Unity

American Theatres Association's proposal of affiliation with the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America was motivated by a growing feeling of need for the most extensive unified exhibition front posbile to cope with changed industry operations anticipated with the U. S. Supreme Court's final disposition of the New York anti-trust case against the distributors, it was reported on Friday by an ATA executive.

It was also disclosed that the idea of affiliation was broached by the ATA several months ago, but some MPTOA directors preferred to defer active consideration because of unsettled conditions as a result of the status of the equity case.

A change of attitude by some in the MPTOA, who now favor considera-

(*Continued on page 6*)

New Favorite Setup To Change Listing

CHICAGO, June 29.—Favorite Films henceforth will have its 31 film exchanges listed under its name rather than under the names of the individual franchise holders, it was announced here Friday by Moe Kerman, Favorite president, at the one day meeting here of Western division franchise holders.

In regard to 40 United Artists' reissues reportedly acquired by Favorite, Kerman said nothing could be announced yet. It is understood that release will be made in New York about July 15.

He disclosed that Favorite reissues were showing up well here in the U. S. as well as in Latin America,

(*Continued on page 6*)

7 Percentage Suits Filed in Illinois

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill., June 29.—Seven percentage suits have been filed in U. S. District Court for the Eastern district of Illinois. John Marlow, the Grand Opera Co. and the Murphysboro Opera Co. are named as defendants in each of the separate complaints, filed by Columbia, Universal, Paramount, Warner Brothers,

(*Continued on page 6*)

Enterprise to Have 7 or 8 in 1947-48

Enterprise will enlarge its production schedule to seven and possibly eight films for 1947-48 season, it was announced at the weekend by the company's executive board through the New York office.

Enterprise says it spent an estimated $11,000,000 producing five films, including "Arch of Triumph," in the past year. No budget estimate has been prepared for the proposed program.

George J. Schaefer, vice-president in charge of distribution, has been meeting in Hollywood with David Loew, board chairman, and Charles Einfeld, president, and other company executives. Schaefer returned to New York Friday.

Two films are scheduled to start

(*Continued on page 6*)

U-I Buys "Harvey"; To Film Next Year

Universal-International has purchased "Harvey," Pulitzer Prize winning play now in its third year on Broadway. It will not go before the cameras until next year. With John Beck producing, no star has yet been set for the role which Frank Fay introduced on Broadway.

The Mary C. Chase play was said to have been acquired for one of the highest prices ever paid for any stage property. Two companies, one in New York and one on the road have played to more than 2,000,000 people, says U-I. Negotiations for the sale were handled on behalf of Miss Chase and Brock Pemberton, the producer, by Harold Freedman, New York. Miss Chase will assist in adapting the play to the screen.

Briskin Moving to Para. in September

Sam Briskin, partner in Liberty Films, which has been acquired by Paramount, will move to the Paramount Coast studio probably in September, according to Henry Ginsberg, Paramount vice-president in charge of studio operations. Ginsberg, who is scheduled to return to the Coast from here this week, said that the nature of Briskin's position has yet to be fully decided.

Reports from other sources indicate Briskin will concern himself primarily with high-budget product, possibly as executive assistant to Ginsberg.

Trading with Japan May Begin Aug. 15

WASHINGTON, June 29. — Initial steps for the resumption of private international trade with Japan will be instituted on August 15, 1947, according to a War Department bulletin, the Department of Commerce reports, though no deals can be finalized until Sept. 1, 1947.

The selection of American trade representatives to be admitted to Japan will be made by the Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce, from among applications submitted to that agency. This selection will be based upon criteria established by the Far Eastern Commission, Washington.

US Will Not Protest New UK Import Restrictions

250 Prints of Allies' German News Reel

Washington, June 29. — More than 250 prints are now being made of each issue of "Welt in Film," joint Anglo-American weekly newsreel for German audiences, according to the War Department.

Two editions are now produced, one German and one Austrian.

WASHINGTON, June 29.—Following receipt through the U. S. embassy in London of proposed British film import restrictions, State Department officials have expressed doubt that any official U. S. protest would be relayed.

Since the proposal does not accord U. S. film imports any treatment different from that accorded other nations, there is no basis for a U. S. objection, they pointed out.

It is understood, however, that Under-secretary of State William Clayton might engage in some behind-the-scenes campaigning to prevent enforcement of the new restrictions.

Bidding, 'Run Negotiations' Quieting Down

Relatively Few Regular Customers Lose Product

The large number of theatremen who at first showed avid interest in the possibilities of competitive bidding or negotiation-of-run has fallen off to a relative few, distribution executives here report, with the result that the companies' rosters of regular customers have been readjusted to practically their original form.

Upon learning of the New York Federal Court's order and subsequently its decree, exhibitors deluged film companies with hundreds of requests for first showings of new product. Although postponement of the distribution operations of the decree was granted, theatremen still had the priority-of-run opportunities through "experi-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Kusell and Lawrence Promoted at SRO

Milton S. Kusell and Laudy Lawrence have been named vice-presidents of Selznick Releasing Organization, Neil Agnew, SRO president, discloses.

Kusell has been elevated from general sales manager to vice-president in charge of domestic and Canadian sales. In 1917, Kusell became a salesman for Paramount in Chicago and two

(*Continued on page 6*)

42 More Features For MPA Program

Forty-two more feature pictures have been approved for the MPA's Children's Film Library by the motion picture committee of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

They are:

Columbia: "Blondie Brings Up

(*Continued on page 6*)

3 Reviews Today

"The Magic Bow," "Kilroy Was Here" and "Pioneer Justice" are reviewed on page 8.

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, will leave Hollywood tomorrow for New York to participate in the company's sales meeting next week.

•

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, is due back here today from a Midwest tour, while his assistant, M. L. SIMONS will return today from Indianapolis and Atlantic City.

•

TONY C. REDDIN, Paramount director of theatre advertising and publicity for Great Britain, arrived here yesterday from Hollywood studio conferences.

•

CURTIS MITCHELL, Paramount publicity and advertising director, and BEN WASHER, publicity manager, arrived here yesterday after being delayed by floods in Iowa.

•

BOB SCHWARTZ and BARBARA KAHN were married here yesterday. He is advertising-production manager for Eagle-Lion.

•

BERNARD J. GATES, Latin American supervisor for Monogram International, has returned here from an eight-month tour of his territory.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, M-G-M short subject sales head, was in Washington over the weekend and is due in Charlotte tomorrow.

•

STANLEY A. MILLER of Loew's International left here yesterday by plane to join the M-G-M office in Cairo.

•

KARL MACDONALD, Warner International general sales manager for South America, has returned here from a six-week Latin America tour.

•

MARVIN SCHENCK, M-G-M's Eastern studio representative, is due on the Coast today, for studio conferences, from New York.

•

SAM SIRITZKY, Siritzky International vice-president, will leave here Wednesday on the *Queen Elizabeth* for product discussions in France.

•

WALTER KESSLER, manager of Loew's Ohio, in Columbus, and ROSEMARIE STANTON of Akron will be married in Akron tomorrow.

•

JIMMY CAMPBELL, formerly RKO Radio sales representative in Atlanta, has joined Monogram Southern exchanges, Atlanta, in the same capacity.

•

FRED SCHANBERGER, JR., chief barker of Variety Tent No. 19, Baltimore, has re-entered Bon Secours Hospital, due to a stomach ailment.

•

EDWARD ERICKSON, for the past three years Monogram representative in St. Louis, has joined Screen Guild in Kansas City.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

CIRCUIT executives insist that no financial guarantees have been given J. Arthur Rank or his distribution representatives here as part of announced intentions to accord increased playing time to British product here.

This is in line with Rank's own statements to the effect that neither he nor his companies have any specific dollar goal in this market. The primary aim, Rank told press conferences in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, is to gain playing time, particularly on national circuits.

John Davis, Rank's chief assistant, said much the same at his recent press conference in London at which he announced that American circuit operators had indicated their willingness to grant screen time to 12 to 15 British films annually.

Published stories that Rank has been given an average of $2,000,000 in playing time commitments by each of the five national circuits here and independent time amounting to an additional $2,000,000 for an American total of $12,000,000 for the next year, simply cannot be supported by anything resembling the facts of the case. At best, they are no more than a guess of what Rank's pictures will earn here in a year. And your guess is as good as the next one's on that.

•

It is pointed out that with the great numerical difference in theatres owned by one national circuit, compared with another, there is no basis on which one could or would commit itself to the same dollar return for British pictures as another. Moreover, Paramount cannot commit its theatre partners, some of whom are openly averse to playing British pictures at all, and others who are frankly undecided about their merits and their saleability in specific regions.

That, in fact, is why Rank revised his Eastbound itinerary recently in order to avail himself of the opportunity to address Paramount and other theatre operators on the subject in New Orleans about 10 days hence.

Also, there has been no expression from independent operators yet which is translatable into dollars.

The actual situation appears to be that expressions of willingness to consider and play British pictures on their merits have been made to Rank. The rest of it is up to Rank's pictures. That could mean $12,000,000 a year from this market, and it also could mean more than that or less than that.

If they all measure up to and play like "Great Expectations," "Henry V" and "Odd Man Out," it could mean much more than that. There is no way of telling until you've seen the pictures.

As Rank remarked once in reply to United Artists' expressions of dissatisfaction with the playing time accorded its pictures on the Odeon Circuit, ownership of which it shares with Rank: "We have to play the pictures that bring in the most revenue."

It may be taken for granted that Rank understands there is nothing local about the application of that business maxim.

• •

Frank Rosenberg, before his departure for the Coast on Friday, said that Monte Schaff and he are determined to demonstrate in the next few months that a good picture still can be made at reasonable cost.

Their contract with Universal-International, which will release, specifies that their picture, based on the story "Man Eaters of Kumaon," must be an "A" picture. Skimping on its production is farthest from their minds. They want Ogden Nash to do the screen play and are looking for someone like Robert Young for the lead. Top cast and production values will be given the picture. The savings, the producers hope, will be realized through careful advance planning, freedom from heavy fixed charges and a constantly watchful eye on all budgets.

Their story was a Book-of-the-Month Club selection, ran in *Readers' Digest* and *Field and Stream.*

• •

It is to be observed that most newspapers and wire services, at long last, are making mention of the huge chunks bitten out of executives' and stars' salaries by Federal and state income taxes in the course of their reporting remunerations paid by film and other companies, as released by the Securities & Exchange Commission and the Treasury.

It is only recently that the public prints have made any mention whatsoever of the taxes that take 60 to 89 per cent of top film salaries. MOTION PICTURE DAILY for the past three years has been pointing out, in making use of such stories, that the salaries reported by the two Federal bureaus, are not net.

Newsreel Parade

THE elevation of three saints by Pope Pius and the dedication of Warm Springs as a shrine are among top items in current newsreels. Also included are the floods in the Midwest, new plastic bathing suits, golf, yachting and other sports. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 87—UN commission in Palestine. British-French talk on rebuilding Europe. Gen. Eisenhower honored by Navy. Major De Seversky gets Harmon Trophy. Pope Pius proclaims three new saints. Little White House in Georgia becomes national shrine. The Ford-Firestone wedding. Bathing beauties in plastic suits. Sports: Yachting, golf.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 285—Floods desolate Midwest. Pope Pius elevates three saints in majestic spectacle. UN commission begins inquiry in Palestine. The train of tomorrow. Ford-Firestone wedding. Major De Seversky honored. New golf champion. Put-out-the-cat contest.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 88—Newest in cue wizardry. UN commission in Palestine. Gen. Eisenhower to head Columbia University. President Truman is host to vets. Ford-Firestone wedding. Warm Springs shrine dedicated. Yacht classic.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 90 — New super-bomber succeeds B29. UN observes second anniversary. Two-way radio fits in the palm of the hand. Warm Springs becomes shrine. A-bomb carrier returns from Bikini. Ford-Firestone wedding.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 51—Little White House at Warm Springs dedicated as shrine. Impressive church rite led by Pope Pius confers sainthood on holy men. Colorful wedding of Ford-Firestone heirs. Train of tomorrow. Three-pound model auto runs for hour on a few drops of oil. Golf tournament at Detroit. Put-the-cat-out contest.

W. D. Ross, 79, Was Formerly with FP-C

TORONTO, June 29.—W. D. Ross, a former director of Famous Players-Canadian Corp. and former Lieut.-Governor of Ontario, died at his Toronto home Thursday in his 79th year after a long illness.

He was closely associated in financial matters with the late N. L. Nathanson, was president of Famous Players and resigned from the board when Nathanson stepped out to form Canadian Odeon. Later Ross sold his company in Hamilton to Theatre Properties, Ltd., and its two theatres there, the Capitol and Palace, which are operated under lease to Odeon Theatres.

Diamond and Gillis Promoted by 20th

Sam Diamond has been named 20th Century-Fox branch manager for Philadelphia, succeeding Herb Gillis who has been promoted to assistant branch manager for New York, it is reported here by Andrew W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager.

Bookers' Dinner Tonight

Annual dinner-dance of New York's Motion Picture Bookers Club will be held tonight at the Hotel Taft here, according to Oscar Lager, chairman. Irving Kaplan of the Randforce circuit is in charge of reservations.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

"The Picture good enough to sell itself has not yet been made."

Martin Quigley

Publisher-Quigley Publications



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Coming Events

Today — Motion Picture Bookers Club of New York final meeting of the season, Hotel Taft, New York.

July 6-8—Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States and the Mississippi Theatre Owners joint meeting to discuss consolidation of both organizations, Biloxi, Miss.

July 7-9—RKO Radio annual sales meeting, Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

July 11—Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners annual election, Louisville.

July 13 - 16—Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio convention, Breakers Hotel, Cedar Point, O.

July 15 - 17—Convention of Fabian Theatres Corp., Hotel Astor, New York.

Jurisdictional Strife Seen Raising Costs

ALBANY, N. Y., June 29. — Coast producers believe that the settlement of the jurisdictional studio strike is vitally important to the drive to hold down production costs, according to Charles Smakwitz, assistant WB zone manager.

Smakwitz said he received this impression while in Hollywood on a recent trip. "It is not being anti-labor," he added, "to observe that jurisdictional disputes are costing companies large sums of money, and delaying the production of pictures. Producers, are squeezed; the public is indirectly hurt, and no one gains," said Smakwitz.

SOPEG Rejects 2nd Offer in UA Talks

A second wage offer made by United Artists has been rejected by the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, CIO. The union, which has asked for a 30 per cent increase for some 200 employes, declared that UA had offered a five per cent increase, with the proviso that if the cost of living dropped, a proportionate amount of the increase would be withdrawn.

A union spokesman said that negotiations would be resumed tomorrow or Wednesday. The first offer was characterized by the union as meaning a two or three per cent increase. Negotiations are being conducted under a wage reopening clause.

Pathe, 'IA' To Negotiate

Negotiations between Motion Picture Home Office Employes Local No. H-63, IATSE, and Pathe Industries on wages and working conditions for 35 employes of the East 106th St. and Bound Brook, N. J., laboratories will be resumed this week.

M-G-M Product Set To February 15

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's 1947-1948 season will be launched on July 1, when "The Hucksters" will start a playoff of 1,000 pre-release runs from Coast-to-Coast during July, for the biggest mass pre-release in the company's history, and paving the way for the release of 15 productions between now and Feb. 15. Foreign bookings are also included in the 1,000. Thirty-two key Loew houses will open "The Hucksters" on July 16-17.

Among completed pictures scheduled for release up to Feb. 15, in addition to "The Hucksters," are: Van Johnson in "The Romance of Rosy Ridge"; Red Skelton in "Merton of the Movies"; Katharine Hepburn, Paul Henreid and Robert Walker in "Song of Love"; "The Unfinished Dance," with Margaret O'Brien, Cyd Charisse and Karin Booth; Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed and Richard Hart in "Green Dolphin Street"; William Powell and Myrna Loy in "Song of the Thin Man"; Greer Garson, Robert Mitchum, Richard Hart in "As You Desire Me"; "This Time for Keeps," starring Esther Williams, Jimmy Durante, Lauritz Melchior, Johnnie Johnston and Xavier Cugat and his orchestra.

Also: Jeanette MacDonald, Jose Iturbi and Jane Powell in "The Birds and the Bees" Spencer Tracy, Lana Turner and Zachary Scott in "Cass Timberlane"; "Summer Holiday," starring Mickey Rooney, Gloria De Haven, Walter Houston, Frank Morgan and Butch Jenkins; Wallace Beery in "Alias a Gentleman"; "Good News," starring June Allyson and Peter Lawford, produced by Arthur Freed, directed by Charles Walters.

Films now shooting, which will complete the release schedule through the spring, are: Walter Pidgeon and Deborah Kerr in "If Winter Comes"; Robert Taylor, Audrey Totter and Herbert Marshall in "The High Wall"; Judy Garland and Gene Kelly in "The Pirate"; Mickey Rooney, Brian Donlevy, James Dunn and Ann Blyth in "Killer McCoy"; Van Johnson, June Allyson and Butch Jenkins in "Virtuous"; Frank Sinatra and Kathryn Grayson, in "The Kissing Bandit"; Esther Williams, Ricardo Montalban, Cyd Charisse, Jimmy Durante and Xavier Cugat and his orchestra, in "On an Island with You."

Chicago Will Honor Jessel on Thursday

CHICAGO, June 29.—Thursday will be "George Jessel Day" in Chicago. Preparations are being made to present Jessel with a City Council citation in front of the Oriental Theatre, to coincide with the opening of Jessel's 20th Century-Fox production, "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now."

The award ceremony will follow a parade including June Haver, Mark Stevens, Martha Stewart, Richard Greene, Joe E. Howard and Jessel.

Express Rate Rise Aired Again July 8

Washington, June 29.—Further hearings on the Railway Express Agency's petition for an increase in rates has been set by the Interstate Commerce Commission for July 8.

Meanwhile, the ICC has notified the Motion Picture Association that MPA testimony at the June 10 hearing has been formally accepted. MPA conservation director John B. McCullough had testified that a small increase in Railway Express rates would be justified if service would be improved. No further MPA testimony will be entered.

Award Made in Ohio Clearance Dispute

CLEVELAND, June 29.—Wooster's 14 days clearance over Orrville will remain unchanged and Massillon's maximum clearance over Orrville will be reduced from 20 to seven days by virtue of a decision handed down by arbitrator Sidney Jackson in the case of the Orrville Theatres Co. against the five majors.

Orrville Theatres sought elimination of all clearances between Orrville and the other two towns. Jackson based his decision on evidence establishing, in his opinion, keen competition as between Wooster and Orrville and a relatively small competitive area of competition between Orrville and Massillon.

Premiere Plans Set On 'The Long Night'

RKO Radio has completed arrangements for the New England area premiere of "The Long Night." About 255 theatres in six states and upper New York will participate, spearheaded by the Memorial Theatre, Boston, on Aug. 6.

A radio campaign will involve 50 stations, including the Yankee network. S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising-publicity, has scheduled the campaign; Terry Turner, exploitation director, and his field force, headed by Harry Reiners, handled details which included a series of luncheons and screenings for exhibitors and newspaper and radio officials.

Leslie Reception Today

Joan Leslie, Eagle-Lion star, will be guest of honor at a press reception to be given by the company this afternoon at the Sherry-Netherland here.

Paramount Pays Dividend

Quarterly dividend of 50 cents per share on common stock of Paramount Pictures was paid on Friday to stockholders of record on June 6.

Short Subject

"Passport to Nowhere"

(*This Is America—RKO Radio*)

A highly informative study of Europe's homeless is presented in the latest of RKO Pathe's "This Is America" series. Out of the 6,000,000 displaced persons at the end of the war, the subject reports, all but 850,000 have found a way home. Eighty per cent of the "DPs" are [illegible] Protestant or Catholic, the remainder are Jewish, the narrator says.

Produced by Frederic Ullman, Jr., the film shows the survivors of death camps and labor battalions in their bleak and aimless drift. The relief work of private and government agencies is examined, with animated drawings clarifying the problem. It is a stirring and forceful subject. Running time, 19 minutes.

So. American Dollar Supply Declining

WASHINGTON, June 29. — Latin America's supply of dollars is declining at an almost "alarming" rate, the Department of Commerce reported here today.

A report on exchange and import control developments stated that gold and exchange holdings in Latin America have "turned downward or an existing downward trend has been accelerated."

Cuba and Venezuela have been the only exceptions in this trend, according to the report, issued by the Department's American republics division.

Enjoinder on Name Sought by Universal

HOLLYWOOD, June 29.—Universal Pictures has filed a Federal Court suit asking declaratory relief from Universal Broadcasting Co. and Universal Radio Prod., charging them with selling phonograph records trademarked simply "Universal." The complainant asserts that the defendants have refused its request to cease this practice, and asks the court to enjoin them from using the name "Universal" which, the suit states, the film company wishes to have clear for its use when, and if, it enters the television field.

$350,000 Para. Tieup

An extensive tie-up has been negotiated by Paramount with the Royal Crown Co. for "The Perils of Pauline," it was disclosed by Curtis Mitchell, the film company's publicity-advertising director, who said it calls for an outlay of $350,000 by the makers of Royal Crown Cola. It will run from July 1 to July 30 to back up engagements beginning July 4, the release date.

"VARIETY GIRL" HAS 6 BIG-PA

Johnston Asks for Criticism of Films

By LOUIS QUIEVREUX

BRUSSELS, June 25 (By Airmail).—Foreign critics of American features are promised serious attention by Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association. In a preface describing the American features entered in the current Brussels World Film Festival, Johnston wrote: "Our participation signifies a desire to exchange with other nations information on motion picture art and technique, to the end that producers everywhere may set and reach higher standards. It also signifies our desire to exchange ideas on all subjects with men of every race and nation on the face of the globe. We look forward to your critical estimates of our films and we intend to put them to practical use in order that our product may ever increase in appeal throughout the world."

Speaking at the inauguration of the Festival, Pierre Vermeylen, the Socialist Home Minister and chairman of the festival, created a sensation when he stated: "Italian film producers are now the feared rivals of that terrible Goliath which is American production. Though they (the Italians) have been working under difficult conditions, they may well be the victors in this contest." The speech was made in the presence of the Italian ambassador.

House Slashes Film Section $285,500

WASHINGTON, June 29.—The House has approved the action of its Appropriations Committee in slashing deeply the funds for the Library of Congress film section during the coming year.

On Friday, it voted the section $85,000, compared with $370,500 asked in the President's budget and $100,000 appropriated last year. The action practically ends all plans of the film section to serve as a central storage and reference point for both Government and commercial films and a central distribution point for Government films. Library officials still hope the Senate will restore part of the cut.

"Years" Millionth Viewer

James A. Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions; Maurice Maurer, director of the Astor Theatre here, and actor Fredric March will be among those to honor the purchaser of the millionth ticket for "The Best Years of Our Lives," sometime today or tomorrow. The film is now in its 32nd week at the Astor.

All PRC Groups United

With the moveover of six additional departments of Producers Releasing Corp. from 625 Madison Avenue, here, to new offices at 165 West 46th Street, the company's entire operation is now grouped in one unit.

US Joins Venice Film Exposition

WASHINGTON, June 29.—Acceptance of the invitation from the Italian government for U. S. participation in the Eighth International Exhibition of Cinematographic Arts has been announced by the Department of State. The exhibition will open at Venice on Aug. 23.

An invitation has also been extended to the American film industry and, it is understood, the Museum of Modern Art, New York, is currently assembling an entry of non-government films.

Among U. S. Government-made films to be forwarded to the competition are "Aerology—Thunderstorms," by the Navy Department; "Camouflage Cartoon," "Diary of a Sergeant" and "Schistosomiasis" by the War Department; also, "Filleting and Packaging Fish" by the Interior Department. For non-competitive display, the following are included: "ABC of G," "Occluded Fronts," "Don't Be a Sucker" and "Sandfly Control."

Puerto Rico Owners To Probe Rentals

By E. SANCHEZ ORTIZ

SAN JUAN, June 29.—The Motion Picture Exhibitors Association of Puerto Rico, meeting here, voted to study legislation to control film rentals. They voted unanimously against paying film rentals of 50 per cent or more.

The Association's resolution named a special committee to study all exhibition, as well as contracts with distributors. The committee is composed of Rafael Ramos Cobian, president of Cobian Theatres; Rafael A. Quinones, Artistides Santoni, Jose Salgado, Rafael A. Gonzalez, Benigno Navas and Luis Ortiz. The committee will render a report probably next month when a special convention will be called.

Sees Video Advance Trebled in a Year

Washington, June 29.—Federal communications commissioner Charles Denny told Congress at the weekend that television facilities will "double or treble" in the next year. Denny appeared before a Senate appropriations committee asking for restoration of funds that the House cut out of FCC appropriations.

Ultramar Will Build Four in Havana

Distribuidora Ultramar, producing, distributing and circuit company of Mexico City, and Cuba, will build a 3,500-seat first-run in Havana and three second-runs in that city, it was disclosed here at the weekend by Jaime Menassce, president, and Luis Sanchez Amago, vice-president and general manager. Both returned to their headquarters, from New York, on Friday, after a three weeks visit.

A subsidiary, Orbe Films, in Havana, is one of the leading independents in Cuba, with the largest staff of any distributor in that country, handling American, Mexican and Argentine product, Menassce stated.

The Ultramar parent company is currently starting production in Mexico City on four specials, to star Maria Antonieta Pons, Latin America star.

J. A. Cordero's Trans-Continental Films, here, represents both companies in this country.

Seek Mexico Tax Cut

MEXICO CITY, June 29.—Petitioning for a cut in the 15 per cent tax on grosses and abolishment of the recently-ordered ceiling of 85 cents admission, local exhibitors told the municipal government that their net profit is only seven per cent.

France and Italy Agree To Interchange 200 Films

ROME, June 25 (By Airmail).—Under terms of a Franco-Italian agreement, each country can export into the other 200 films; 100 of more than five-reel length, 100 of less than five reels. Proceeds from the films will be handled by an international clearing account between France and Italy. This means that the funds will not be blocked as are proceeds from American pictures. Authorities of both countries can, if they agree, authorize the use of the proceeds from their pictures for cooperative production either in France or in Italy. These pictures would be free of quota restrictions.

Terms S. A. Fertile Equipment Market

Unlimited possibilities for the increasing use of motion pictures and sound equipment exist in the South American market, according to Ignacio Kronenberg, president of Kron Film and Telecine, photographic supply firms with headquarters in Buenos Aires, who is visiting the United States, and is now lining up both 35mm and 16mm film and equipment.

Hearings Concluded On White Radio Bill

WASHINGTON, June 29.—A Senate interstate and commerce subcommittee today concluded hearings on the White bill to reorganize the Federal Communications Commission and amend the Communications Act.

It is commonly conceded that the bill will require extensive redrafting to meet suggestions made during the hearings, and will not be reported out of committee this session.

Virtually all witnesses agreed that there should be no limit on the number of stations that can be licensed by one individual or corporation. The bill ends the FCC authority to impose such a limit, but provides that no one shall have stations providing a primary service for more than 25 per cent of the U. S.

Sen. White announced he would not attempt to have the bill reported before the recess. He declared that the extended hearings served a very useful purpose, "highlighting the amazing technical and other developments in the communications field, as well as the extreme divergence of views in the industry."

NAB May Expand Its Directorate

WASHINGTON, June 29.—A plan to give representation to FM, television and facsimile on the board of directors of the National Association of Broadcasters will be submitted to its membership for a referendum vote, the association announced here.

An amendment to the by-laws would provide for four new directors-at-large, one each from class A FM stations, class B FM stations and television and facsimile stations.

The provision would become effective when there are 25 active members in each group.

Asks Video Change To Protect Public

CHICAGO, June 29.—E. F. McDonald, Jr., president of Zenith Radio Corp., has urged the Federal Communications Commission to move television broadcasting immediately to a band above 500 megacycles to save the public "from spending millions of dollars" on receivers that soon will become obsolete. McDonald said that "the commission is on record that television's assignment to the 50 MC band is only temporary," but few buyers know this.

Television 'Packages'

Video Association, television "packaging" agency, has instituted a circulating program service making available complete local television shows. Each "Tele-Pak," so-called, would include a master script, camera plot, ground plan, set specifications and other material. Philip Brodsky is president of the company.

DUCTION SONG NUMBERS A

Grant Permits for Seven FM Stations

WASHINGTON, June 29.—Construction permits for seven FM stations in Boston have been granted by the Federal Communications Commission.

They were given to Columbia Broadcasting, Matheson Radio, Yankee Network, Unity Broadcasting of Massachusetts, Templeton Radio, Massachusetts Broadcasting and Harvey Radio Laboratories.

The FCC also accepted for filing the applications of Scripps Howard Radio, Inc., for licenses to cover construction permits for two experimental television relay broadcast stations in the Cleveland area.

ATA Affiliation

(*Continued from page* 1)

tion of the affiliation so as to be ready when the trust suit is ultimately disposed of, has resulted in the calling of an ATA-MPTOA meeting on July 11-12, it was said.

In what fashion both groups would wield their collective power, in the event they join, could hardly be determined until the high court hands down its final decision, it was said. ATA and MPTOA both have opposed the competitive bidding dictate of the New York decree, but this was not done jointly.

Meanwhile, Robert W. Coyne, ATA executive secretary, and Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, are to meet here tomorrow to polish off a joint draft of recommendations of Federal admission tax reductions which they will send to the House Ways and Means Committee in Washington, probably the latter part of this week.

Favorite Setup

(*Continued from page* 1)

France and Italy. Reissues have also been sold to Finland, Bulgaria and Hungary, he said.

Conferring on 1947-1948 plans, the franchise holders who attended included: Albert Dezell, Chicago; Burt Stern, Pittsburgh; Ben Crandell, Los Angeles; Harry Price, San Francisco; Julius Coller and his associate, Reno Wilk, Minnesota; Meyer Stern, Des Moines; Andy Dietz, St. Louis, and Burt Krulick, Buffalo.

Army Gets Short Film

Rights to Pictorial Films' 16mm. "How a Bill Becomes a Law" has been acquired by the civilian affairs division of the U. S. Army for exhibition in Germany, Japan and other occupied countries.

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42 Children's Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

Baby," "Five Little Peppers and How They Grew," "Five Little Peppers in Trouble," "Junior Army," "Son of Davy Crockett."

M-G-M: "Young Tom Edison," "The Human Comedy," "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," "Christmas Carol."

Monogram: "The Hoosier Schoolboy," "The Barefoot Boy."

Paramount: "Alice in Wonderland," "Little Miss Marker," "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," "Biscuit Eater," "Henry Aldrich, Boy Scout," "Geronimo."

RKO-Radio: "Two Thoroughbreds," "Anne of Wendy Poplars," "Anne of Green Gables," "Mother Carey's Chickens," "Dog of Flanders," "Three Musketeers."

20th Century-Fox: "The Poor Little Rich Girl," "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm," "Young Mr. Lincoln," "Alexander Graham Bell," "Little Old New York."

United Artists: "Three's a Family," "Knickerbocker Holiday," "Song of the Open Road."

Republic: "Sis Hopkins," "Young Buffalo Bill."

Universal: "The Underpup," "Sandy Gets Her Man," "The Mighty Treve," "Three Smart Girls."

Warner Brothers: "Green Pastures," "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "The Prince and the Pauper," "Penrod and Sam."

Astor: "Swiss Family Robinson."

Clubwomen Select 'Wonderful Life' For 'Distinguished Service' Award

The General Federation of Women's Clubs on Friday presented an award to Liberty Films, Frank Capra and RKO Radio for "It's a Wonderful Life," rated by the Federation as "the best picture of 1946-47 that portrays the highest ideals of American life." It marked the start of a "distinguished service" annual award by the Federation.

The scroll was accepted by James Stewart, co-star of the picture, at a luncheon at the Commodore Hotel here given under the auspices of the motion picture committee of the Federation. Mrs. LaFell Dickinson, president of the Federation, made the presentation.

Mrs. Florence Fisher Parry, columnist, declared that producers are making good pictures but have "not sold themselves."

Among those attending were: Francis Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association; Rutgers Neilson, publicity manager of RKO Radio; Carl E. Milliken, MPA consultant; Leon Bamberger, in charge of exhibitor relations for RKO Radio; Mrs. Marjorie Granger Dawson, community relations department, MPA, and Mrs. Alice Evans Field, studio and public service department, MPA. Mrs. Arretus F. Burst, chairman of the motion picture committee, presided.

FCC Approves 5 Stations

WASHINGTON, June 29.—The FCC has approved five applications for standard broadcasting stations. They are: Glens Falls Publicity Corp., Glens Falls, N. Y.; Broadcast Management, Bethesda, Md.; Western Massachusetts Broadcasting Co., Pittsfield; WAUK Broadcasting Co., Waukesha, Wis.; Port Arthur Broadcasting Co., Port Arthur, Tex.

Employment Is Up 18 Percent in Radio

Washington, June 29.—Employment in the radio industry has increased 18 per cent since Oct., 1945, the Federal Communications Commission reports.

Seven networks and 924 standard broadcasting stations employed almost 35,000 in February of this year, while in Oct., 1945, total employment was 29,405 for nine networks and 876 stations.

Enterprise To Have 7

(*Continued from page* 1)

simultaneously in September, David Lewis' production of Nancy Mitford's novel, "Pursuit of Love," and Wolfgang Reinhardt's production of Libbie Block's "Wild Calendar," to star Ginger Rogers.

Enterprise is taking a temporary production hiatus this summer, with the completion of shooting next week on Harry Sherman's "They Passed This Way," until the start of the two films next fall. During this holiday, an enlarged writing-producing staff will be at work at the studio, developing the two for early production and the six other scripts scheduled, the company reports.

Six other pictures to be made in 1947-48 season include "Cairo Incident," on which Phillip and Janet Stephenson are now preparing a script for producer Reinhardt. Ladislas Fodor is developing a screenplay from Bulwer-Lytton's book, "The Passion of Eugene Aram," and Harry Brown will complete an original screen story for Barbara Stanwyck.

Lewis Milestone, who will produce and direct Lion Feuchtwanger's "Proud Destiny," will shortly select a screenwriter for that production. Now waiting a writer assignment also is a film version of Stendahl's "The Red and the Black." Producer Sherman will also set his next production, probably Bret Harte's "Tennessee Partner," to star Joel McCrea.

7 Percentage Suits

(*Continued from page* 1)

RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Loew's, respectively.

The suits are similar to actions pending in various other Federal courts, each complaint alleging that a plan was entered into by the defendants concerning statements on admission receipts received from the exhibition of the plaintiffs' percentage pictures.

Theatres involved in the actions are the Annex and Marlow in Herrin, Ill., and the Liberty and Marlow in Murphysboro.

Jacob M. Lashly and Israel Treiman of the firm of Lashly, Lashly Miller and Clifford of St. Louis, and Robert M. Crain of Crain and Hall of Centralia, Ill., are the attorneys for the distributor plaintiffs. Sargoy and Stein, New York, also appear as counsel.

Schultz in Variety Post

CLEVELAND, June 29.—Nate Schultz, local Monogram franchise owner, has succeeded Harry Schreiber as chief Variety Club barker. Schreiber, RKO city theatre manager, was transferred to Columbus.

Bidding Quiets

(*Continued from page* 1)

mental" bidding conducted by some companies and negotiation-of-run by others.

Companies which are conducting bidding on a limited scale find at this point the necessity or advisability of selling away from old accounts to be limited to roughly 50 instances. One firm, which has bidding going in 75 areas, each involving an average of two to three theatres, has found that very often the original customer is in a better financial position to bid, or that agreements on product splits can be made.

Over-ambitious bidding—that is, offering terms out of proportion to the revenue-producing capability of the theatre—has virtually ceased, it was said.

Company spokesmen also report that old customers, at first reluctant to do so, are now entering the bidding picture when competitors ask for and receive the right to bid.

Loew's 20th-Century-Fox and Paramount were the most active in bidding operations. Recently, Paramount announced that it had ceased that type of licensing but would grant runs on the "licensing merits" of the theatre. That company, as well as RKO Radio, Universal, Columbia and United Artists are now understood to have effected a policy of considering all requests for runs and negotiating with exhibitors where requests are reasonable.

Like the results of actual bidding, these negotiations have in the main meant only minor changes in general selling procedures, it is said.

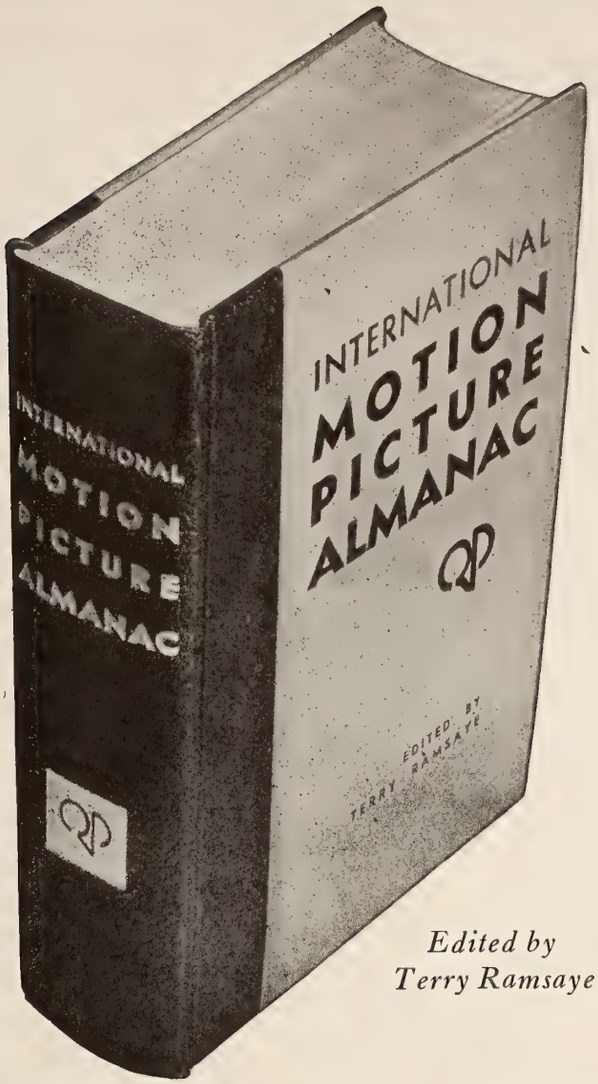
Kusell and Lawrence

(*Continued from page* 1)

years later was named manager there. He was transferred to New York as special salesman in 1920 and in 1922 opened the New Jersey exchange as manager. Three years later he was appointed manager of Paramount's New York branch, and in 1932 was made a district manager. He left Paramount in 1945 to become Eastern supervisor of sales for Vanguard. When the Selznick Releasing Organization was formed in 1946, Kusell was named general sales manager.

Lawrence has been given the post of vice-president in charge of foreign sales. He started with M-G-M in 1925 and later became managing director for that company in Continental Europe. After assisting David O. Selznick in Hollywood, he joined United Artists in 1941 and became vice-president and executive coordinator. In 1942, Lawrence became director of foreign distribution for 20th Century-Fox and left that organization for a tour for the Office of War Information. In March 1946, he was named president of London Films Productions, representing the U. S. interests of Sir Alexander Korda.

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Gov't Approval on 27 More Projects

WASHINGTON, June 29. — Twenty-seven additional theatre construction projects have been approved by the Office of the Housing Expediter. They are:

Jerome G. Bittner, South Kinlock Park, St. Louis Co., Mo., theatre; Lindenhurst Theatre Co., Lindenhurst, L. I., N. Y., theatre; William Voise, Odessa, Wash., theatre completion; Marchesi Bros., Freeport, Ill., theatre; W. C. Pringe, Glenmore, La., theatre addition; Falls Theatre Co., Cuyahoga Falls, O., theatre addition; Stein Theatres, Ashburn, Turner County, Ga., conversion of building into theatre.

Also: E. L. Pack, El Paso, Tex., drive-in; P. V. Williams, Munday, Tex., conversion of building into theatre; C. L. Eldredge, Kimberly, Ida., theatre completion; Lyon Realty Co., Lyons, Cook County, Ill., completion of foundation for drive-in; Elton L. and Orville Voeks, Baileys Harbor, Wis., theatre; Samuel Joseph Scott, Coitsville Township, O., drive-in.

Construction of a theatre in Luling, Tex., at a cost of $110,000, by Henry and George Stein has been approved. OHE also approved the following construction projects: James D. Berry, Smyrna, Tenn., theatre and meeting hall; A. J. Hansen, Johnson County, Ind., outdoor theatre; Community Theatres, Inc., Topeka, Kans., drive-in theatre and apartment; Ernest L. Driggers, Lake City, S. C., theatre.

Also: William H. McCarter and W. C. Shillinglaw, Fort Mill, S. C., theatre completion; Funk Enterprise, Inc., Guymon, Okla., theatre extension; Boyd Milligan, Fort Worth, Tex., theatre; William L. Hitchcock, Sardinia, O., theatre; Dale Morrison, Wadsworth, O., open-air theatre; Frank Ullman, El Centro, Calif., theatre; Merlin T. Atkins, Summer, Ill., converting quonset hut into theatre; Frank W. Singletary, Lake City, S. C., completion of theatre; Thomas H. Lucas, Roseville, Calif., theatre and living quarters.

Reopens After Fire

MEMPHIS, June 29. — The Memphian, which has been closed for several months because of a fire, reopened over the weekend. The theatre has been completely remodeled, and a new front and marquee have been added.

Joe Keifer, who was manager of the Memphian from the time he returned from the service until it was closed will continue as manager. He also was connected with the Linden Circle theatre for a number of years.

Blaze Kills Fireman

CINCINNATI, June 29.—A midnight fire, originating in a nearby apartment, killed a fireman and caused $20,000 damage to the Downtown Theatre, operated by Charles Fine. The fireman died after inhaling fumes from the projection booth. The fire destroyed the roof of the theatre, and the interior was gutted.

Drive-In Changes Name

SEATTLE, June 29.—The Northwest Motor-In-Theatre, on the Seattle-Tacoma highway, has changed its name to the Midway. Owners are Ed Johnson and Dwight Spracher.

Reviews

"The Magic Bow"

(Rank—Universal-International)

THE career of the violinist Paganini was a colorful one, and much of its romance has been captured in this fictionalized account from J. Arthur Rank's Prestige Pictures. With dubbed-in playing by Yehudi Menuhin of numbers by Beethoven, Paganini, Brazzini and Tartini, the film's extraordinary appeal for selective audiences is assured. However, with the outmoded dramatic technique and occasionally pompous dialogue, mass audience reception is uncertain.

Stewart Granger has the role of the erratic musical genius, who, born to humble circumstances, has a long struggle with poverty before he attains recognition. Along the way he falls in love with Phyllis Calvert, aristocratic French girl. However, differences in social station, and the will of Napoleon, keep them apart. Out of this separation arise the main plot complications which are finally resolved when the two are reunited at a command performance by Paganini.

Granger contributes a noteworthy performance as the dashing, dueling, temperamental fiddler, with Miss Calvert, now under contract to Paramount, performing equally well. Others in the cast are Jean Kent and Dennis Price.

A Gainsborough Picture, released here through Universal-International, the settings are lavish, with direction by Bernard Knowles making the best of a script by Roland Pertwee, from a novel by Manuel Komroff. Executive producer was Maurice Ostrer; R. J. Minney produced.

Reviewing the film from London in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Oct. 21, 1946, Peter Burnup said: ". . . the myriad romantical feminine adorants of Stewart Granger are in for a disappointment. It is doubtful whether in that mood they will be consoled with the altogether entrancing violin and orchestral music carried on the film's sound-track."

Running time, 105 minutes. General audience classification. For July release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Kilroy Was Here"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, June 29

IN addition to its manifestly exploitable title, and the likewise exploitable teaming of Jack Cooper and Jackie Coogan in the top roles, this comedy packs a good deal more entertainment than is commonly to be found in 68 minutes of running time. Dick Irving Hyland, who wrote the script and co-produced the picture with Sidney Luft, is to be credited with capitalizing on the Kilroy phenomena in a not only unexpected but captivating and genuinely amusing way.

Cooper plays Kilroy, the real one, as a young veteran eager to enter college under the GI Bill of Rights provisions, but stymied in this and practically all other activities by the disbelief and general confusion which mention of his name induces. Coogan plays the role of his well-meaning but over-anxious buddy, in and out of service, whose attempts to smooth his way for him lead to trouble as often as to success. Wanda McKay, as the girl publicity director of the college in which Kilroy enlists, and Frank Jenks, as leader of the taxicab-driver group from which Kilroy entered the service, head a large and competent supporting cast. Direction by Phil Karlson is smoothly paced and extracts maximum value from the Hyland script.

Running time, 68 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, July 5.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER.

"Pioneer Justice"

(Producers Releasing Corp.)

THE combined efforts of producer Jerry Thomas, production manager William L. Nolte, director Ray Taylor, script writer Adrian Page and a pleasing cast topped by "Lash" LaRue and Al "Fuzzy" St. John, bring forth a better-than-average entry in the "horse-opera" category. Its particular blending of hard-riding, fisticuffs and triumph-of-good-over-evil pans out to hold interest completely throughout. The picture succeeds in accomplishing what was intended: to entertain.

LaRue, whose nickname derives from his skillful use of a bull-whip against his enemies, gives a good performance as a champion of frontier townsfolk who are victimized by a gang of swindlers. St. John, as his comic side-kick, turns in a restrained and, consequently, better than usual acting job; Jennifer Holt, who shares a hint of romance with LaRue, and heavies William Fawcett, Jack Ingram, Henry Hall and Lane Bradford, who also come through nicely.

Running time, 56 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, June 28.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Blumenfeld Leases One

SAN FRANCISCO, June 29.—Joseph Blumenfeld, president of the Blumenfeld Circuit, reports that the San Francisco Theatre Association had acquired his Tivoli Theatre on a 10-year lease. The theatre, which recently was remodeled and reopened by Blumenfeld, was one of three other downtown theatres operated by the circuit.

Palmer Heads AMPRO

CHICAGO, June 29.—A. J. Palmer, 35mm. equipment industry veteran, has become president of AMPRO Corp., manufacturers of 8mm. and 16mm. projectors. Retirement of Axel Monson, founder of AMPRO and president since its beginning, led to Palmer's appointment. Monson will continue as AMPRO's board chairman.

25 Features From Czechs This Year

The nationalized Czechoslovakian film industry will turn out 25 feature productions this year and, under that country's five-year plan, plans to have some 4,500 theatres ready early in 1952, Frantisek Pilat, head of the technical administration of theatres in Czechoslovakia, has disclosed here.

Pilat acted as the spokesman for a group of four Czech technical experts now in this country on an equipment-buying mission. Others include Vilem Taraba, technical manager of the state studios; Frantisek Rubas, manager of the state laboratories, and Dr. Jaroslav Boucek, professor of the film faculty. They will also study American laboratory operations and techniques.

As Mr. Pilat put it: "Before and during the war our industry was geared to German methods. Now we need a new orientation and new equipment. This is our main purpose for coming here. We intend to import a great deal of equipment."

First Quarter Gross In Mexico City Up

MEXICO CITY, June 29.—Probing official figures claiming that the gross of local theatres dropped more than $200,000 in January to March, reveals that theatre business was really better during the first three months, on a total gross of $3,130,500, compared to $2,698,350 in the same period last year.

New Video Film Company

Incorporation papers for a new company which plans to produce film commercials for television and film programs under the name of Television Pics, Inc. have been filed in Albany, N. Y. by Charles J. Basch, Jr. of Basch Radio and Television Prod. here. In addition to Basch, who will be president and sales manager, officers include: Frances Scott, vice-president in charge of script and programming; Charles Miller, secretary and supervisor of production, and Clarence Schmidt, treasurer and technical supervisor.

Kay Gets 22 Films

ATLANTA, June 29.—Kay Film Exchanges, in Atlanta, Washington, D. C., Charlotte, Memphis and New Orleans, has secured distribution on the following re-releases: six Tim McCoy Westerns, eight Tom Tyler Westerns, six Tom Keene and two Rita Hayworth action-dramas. New prints and accessories are available on all.

Eric Green to PRC

Eric Byron Green, in the industry for two years, has joined Producers Releasing Corp. as a booker-salesman in the Kansas City branch, to work under branch manager M. Shackelford, it was announced here by Ralph Clark, PRC general sales manager.

New PRC Salesman

Milton Broudy, veteran of four years as a lieutenant in the Infantry, has been named Producers Releasing salesman in the Scranton territory by Ralph Clark, PRC general sales manager.

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